



Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research

August 2026 Newsletter

Calls & Opportunities

[Call for Editors] Human Rights Here Blog is Looking for Editors

- **Deadline: 28 September**



Since launching in 2019, Human Rights Here (HRH) has built a strong readership through its commitment to publishing high-quality, timely insights on human rights. To continue this momentum, we are looking for human rights scholars of PhD candidacy or higher levels, and/or practitioners of human rights of any seniority, to help us review submissions and support outreach and partnerships.

Send us an email expressing your interest and experience, and attach your CV to humanrightshere@asser.nl, with the subject line "HRH Editor Application".

More information [here](#).



[Deadline approaching] Conference Attendance Grants for PhD Members

- **Deadline: 15 September 2026**

Are you a PhD student, member of the NNHRR, and interested in attending a conference relevant to your human rights research? We are offering four conference attendance grants of up to €1,000 to cover your conference fee, as well as travel and hotel costs.

To be eligible, you must be:

- A member of the NNHRR
- Affiliated with a NNHRR member university
- Have not yet defended your PhD by the time of the conference
- Attending a conference connected to your human rights research
- Attending a conference taking place within 6 months of the application deadline

More information [here](#).

[Call for Abstracts] 2026 NNHRR Doctoral Research Forum

- **Date:** 19 November 2026
- **Location:** University of Amsterdam
- **Deadline:** 2 October 2026



The NNHRR invites PhD members to submit abstracts for the **2026 Doctoral Research Forum**. This event offers PhD candidates at all stages of their doctoral research the opportunity to present their work in a supportive academic environment, receive feedback from senior human rights scholars, and engage with fellow researchers from across the Network. Abstracts may relate to a research proposal, dissertation chapter, or article in progress.

The deadline for abstract submissions is **2 October 2026**. Participation is open to NNHRR PhD members, and travel and accommodation grants are available. Registration and submission of abstracts can be completed via the [online registration form](#).



[Call for Abstracts] Gender and Criminal Law: Global Perspectives & Local Lessons

- **Date:** 29 and 30 January 2027
- **Location:** Leiden University
- **Deadline:** 31 October 2026

Together with **Mojan Samadi** (University of Utrecht) and **Marloes van Noorloos** (University of Leiden), **Julie Fraser** (University of Utrecht) is organising a conference on

'Gender and Criminal Law: Global Perspectives & Local Lessons - Gendered Perspectives on Criminal Justice', taking place at Leiden University on 29 and 30 January 2027.

The deadline for abstract submission is **31 October 2026**. Submissions from early-career scholars and from underrepresented regions and perspectives are encouraged. Priority will be given to submissions that adopt critical approaches to related concepts and categories, engage with a solid theoretical framework, and are based on empirical research.

More information [here](#).

[Call for Papers] Workshop Age-Appropriate Design of Online Platforms

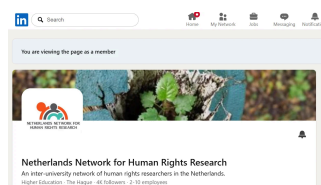
- **Date:** 19 February 2027
- **Location:** Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- **Deadline:** 16 October 2026



The workshop '[Age-appropriate design of online platforms: questions for EU law and children's rights](#)' will take place at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam on 19 February 2027. The workshop will bring together scholars working on the protection of minors online, from the perspective of children's rights and EU law. Are you interested in presenting your work during this workshop?

The deadline for submitting abstracts is **16 October 2026**. Work in progress is specifically welcomed, allowing authors to benefit from the wide range of views that the workshop aims to bring together. Early-career scholars, including doctoral candidates, are also encouraged to submit an abstract.

More information [here](#).



[Opportunity] Shine a Spotlight on your PhD Research

- **Deadline:** ongoing

Are you conducting innovative human rights research during your PhD, or know someone who is? We would love to interview you on our newest initiative for PhD members: **PhD Spotlight**! To participate, send a portrait picture and a filled out version of [the following document](#) to nnhrr@asser.nl with the subject line "PhD Spotlight - [your name]".

Announcements



[New NNHRR Intern] Kata Jácinta Éles

Meet [Kata Jácinta Éles](#), who joined the [T.M.C. Asser Instituut](#) as an intern in August. She is tasked with assisting the administration of the [Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research](#) and the [Human Rights Here](#) Blog.

Kata is a recent double LL.M. graduate in International Human Rights Law and Global Criminal Law from the University of Groningen. She completed her foundational legal studies at the same institution, obtaining an LL.B. in International and European Law, supplemented by an Honours College diploma and an exchange semester at the Eötvös Lóránd Tudomány Egyetem. Kata's primary area of interest lies at the intersection of human rights protection and criminal law, in particular striking the delicate balance between public and private interests, which requires defining the strict parameters for legitimate State interference. Her research interests also extend to environmental justice, and business and human rights.

Events & Education

[Event] 45 Years of SIM and Peter Baehr Lecture

- **Date:** September 10th 2026
- **Time:** 16:30–17:30
- **Location:** Neude Library, Utrecht University



We are delighted to invite you to a special event marking 45 years of the [Netherlands Institute of Human Rights \(SIM\)](#) at Utrecht University. On **Thursday, 10 September 2026**, Utrecht University is hosting the [Rule of Law Parade](#) at the Neude Library in

Utrecht, where researchers, writers, theatre makers, and visitors come together to explore the democratic rule of law.

As part of this event, SIM will celebrate its 45th anniversary with the SIM Peter Baehr Lecture at 16:30–17:30. This year's Peter Baehr Lecture will be delivered by Judge Beti Hohler of the International Criminal Court.

Register [here](#).



[Save the Date] PhD Defence – David Patterson

- **Date:** 14 September 2026
- **Time:** 14:30
- **Location:** Academy Building, University of Groningen

Please save the date for the PhD defence of [David Patterson](#) (University of Groningen), where he will defend his dissertation "*The Climate Crisis and the Right to Health: Mobilising International Human Rights Law for Urgent Climate Action*", which explores how international human rights law can strengthen responses to the climate emergency and advance the protection of the right to health.

Colleagues are warmly invited to attend in person or follow the defence via the University of Groningen's [livestream](#).

[Online Course] Ethics, Law and Governance for Climate and Environmental Action in Public Health

- **Format:** Live virtual course
- **Number of Sessions:** 10
- **Day and Time:** Wednesdays, 16:30-18:00 CET
- **Course Period:** 23 September - 2 December 2026



ASPHER and the European Climate and Health Observatory are hosting a **free APHEA-accredited CTEE course** on *Ethics, Law and Governance for Climate Environmental Action in Public Health*. **Marlies Hesselman** (University of Groningen) is the lecturer for Session 3. During her lecture, she will discuss how human rights-based litigation has been used to advocate for climate action and will address the *Bonaire* case.

More information [here](#).



[Short Course] Climate Litigation and Regulation – International and European Perspectives

- **Date:** 7–8 December 2026
- **Location:** T.M.C. Asser Institute, The Hague

The T.M.C. Asser Institute, in collaboration with [SEVEN – the University of Amsterdam's interdisciplinary climate institute](#), is offering a two-day short course on **Climate Litigation and Regulation – International and European Perspectives**.

The programme provides participants with a practical understanding of the rapidly evolving landscape of international and European climate law. Topics include human rights and the climate, the UN climate regime, the ICJ Advisory Opinion on Climate Change, strategic climate litigation, the European Climate Law, the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD), and corporate climate obligations.

Designed for legal and non-legal professionals alike, the course is open to policymakers, corporate counsel, NGOs, academics, diplomats, and practitioners seeking to deepen their understanding of climate law and its practical implications.

More information [here](#).

[Save the date] Inaugural Lecture – Prof. Nadia Bernaz

- **Date:** 5 March 2027
- **Location:** Wageningen University



Please save the date for the inaugural lecture of NNHRR Steering Committee member Prof. Nadia Bernaz, Professor of Law and Corporate Justice at Wageningen University, which will take place on **5 March 2027 at 16:00** at Wageningen University.

An official invitation, including further details on the programme and registration, will be shared in due course.

Publications

Call for Contributions!

Would you like us to feature your recent or upcoming publication in the NNHRR Newsletter? Reach out to nnhrr@asser.nl.

Human Rights Here

Human Rights Here Blog

Call for Submissions!

Submissions to the Human Rights Here blog are invited from scholars and practitioners both inside and outside of the Netherlands on topics related to human rights. Members of the NNHRR and early career scholars are especially welcomed to submit blog content. Please send your contribution to humanrightshere@asser.nl and check [here](#) for the requirements.

Beyond the “Global South”: Indigenous Peoples and the Reconfiguration of Environmental Human Rights



Elena Kavanagh argues that the "Global South/North" binary is an inadequate lens for understanding Indigenous peoples' experiences in environmental human rights discourse. While "Global South" has replaced the outdated "Third World," both terms can obscure more than they reveal. Indigenous communities across both the geographic South and North – from the Amazon to the Arctic – face similar patterns of dispossession and legal marginalisation, as demonstrated by Norway's Fosen case. Drawing on Acharya's relational reconceptualisation of the "Global South", the post contends that Indigenous peoples occupy a "Global South position" within international legal hierarchies, yet remain distinct collective rights-holders under UNDRIP and ILO 169. It also explores how Indigenous cosmologies have shaped Rights of Nature jurisprudence and argues that Indigenous perspectives are reshaping environmental human rights by offering relational alternatives that link ecological integrity with collective identity and survival.

This entry is part of the Blog Series on Developments on Human Rights and the Environment in the Global South.

You can read the blog post [here](#).



The Living Instrument Doctrine in Rights-based Climate Litigation by Lianne Baars

The 2025 TU Dresden Summer School, titled “Navigating Change – Contemporary Perspectives on Human Rights,” explored how human rights law can develop in the face of emerging global challenges such as climate change, artificial intelligence, and public health crises. Lianne Baars' blog contribution draws upon the material discussed at the 4th edition of the International Summer School “Human Rights in Theory and Practice” at the TU Dresden, and upon the author’s own doctoral research. The author’s attendance at the conference was facilitated with the aid of a conference attendance grant from the Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research (NNHRR).

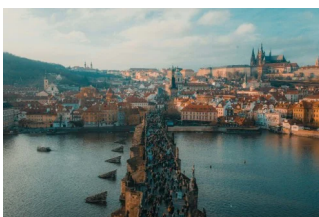
You can read the blog post [here](#).

'Should I Stay or Should I Go?': The Implications of the ADDE Case in Relation to the Schengen Acquis and the Rights of Third Country Nationals by Estephany Ximena Leon Rodriguez



When internal borders reappear, do rights disappear? At a time of expanding internal border controls within the EU, the ADDE case of the Court of Justice of the European Union has important implications for third-country nationals in the EU. In her blog, Estephany León Rodríguez argues that the judgment reinforces the applicability of the Return Directive and strengthens fundamental rights, specifically procedural, within the Schengen area. In her blog, the author comments on the ADDE judgement and on its implications for the Schengen acquis and the rights of TCNs.

You can read the blog post [here](#).



From Scepticism to the Courtroom: How Czech Climate Litigation Is Fighting for Future Generations - Climate Litigation for Future Generations Series by Marek Chuman

Czech Courts are quietly making history. In 2022, a Prague court became the first in the country to recognise “climate stability” as a constitutional right. The ruling has had serious implications for future generations across Europe. In his blog, Marek Chuman explores what that breakthrough meant, why it was overturned and why the fight is far from over.

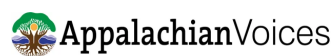
You can read the blog post [here](#).

Beyond the Courtroom: The Unfinished Legacy of Neubauer v. Germany - Climate Litigation for Future Generations Series by Giorgia Urari



In 2021, the German Federal Court announced a monumental ruling in the country's history of climate litigation. This ruling gave future generations a constitutional right to a liveable climate, but its vague implementation guidelines left room for legislative backsliding. In her blog post, [Giorgia Urari](#) explores how that hard-won victory has since been tested, and what its legacy can tell us about the limits of climate litigation.

You can read the blog post [here](#).



AppalachianVoices

Appalachian Voices v. EPA: Jurisdictional Challenges Impeding Climate Justice for Future Generations - Climate Litigation for Future Generations Series by William Anderson

Appalachian Voices v. EPA is an ongoing suit in the United States Federal Court system which involves the alleged unlawful termination by the Trump Administration of the Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants, a program designed to financially assist in climate resilience projects for present and future peoples. The decision of the D.C. District Court, which is now being appealed, centered around a question of subject-matter jurisdiction put forth by the defendant. This post will illuminate the danger of this subject-matter jurisdiction claim and the resultant impact on future generations.

You can read the blog post [here](#).

Future generations, Victims and Associations: The ECtHR's Contradictory Approach in KlimaSeniorinnem - Climate Litigation for Future Generations Series by Maja Versa



In *Verein KlimaSeniorinnen Schweiz and Others v. Switzerland*, the European Court of Human Rights addressed the negative impacts of climate change, with particular emphasis on governments' responsibility to provide adequate climate measures to ensure individuals' protection from climate harm. In her contribution, the author discusses the decision through the lenses of future generations, particularly through the questions of admissibility of applications and victim status developed in the judgement.

You can read the blog post [here](#).



A Look into the NNHRR Human Rights Research Series: Interviews with Some of the First Authors by Estephany Leon Rodriguez and Marianna Peroni

To mark the publication of the first volume in the renewed Human Rights Research Series, Estephany León Rodríguez and Marianna Peroni interviewed four distinguished scholars who were among the earliest authors to publish their dissertations in the series: Christophe Paulussen, Antoine Buyse, Nicola Jägers, and Yvonne Donders. Reflecting on their experiences, they discuss how publishing their doctoral research influenced their academic careers, how human rights scholarship has evolved over the past two decades, and why the Human Rights Research Series continues to play an important role in fostering high-quality research and connecting generations of scholars.

You can read the blog post [here](#).

The Human Rights Research Series - The Human Cost of Development: Situating Development-Induced Displacement in International Human Rights Law by Estephany Leon Rodriguez and Marianna Peroni



To celebrate the publication of the latest volume in the renewed Human Rights Research Series, Estephany León Rodríguez and Marianna Peroni interviewed Dr. Roman Teshome, author of "The Human Cost of Development: Situating Development-Induced Displacement in International Human Rights Law". In the interview, Dr. Roman Teshome discusses what inspired her research, the key normative gaps in international human rights law on development-induced displacement, the added value of a human rights-based approach, and the role international financial institutions should play in ensuring that development projects respect human rights standards. She also shares valuable advice for early-career researchers considering publishing their PhD in the Human Rights Research Series.

You can read the blog post [here](#).



Future Generations in Climate Litigation: Promise and Limits from Colombia's Amazon Case - Climate Litigation for Future Generation Series by Juliette Bormann

In her blog, Juliette Bormann examines the landmark Colombian Amazon climate case *Future Generations v Ministry of the Environment and Others*. The blog argues that the judgment powerfully links deforestation, human rights, and intergenerational justice, but also leaves unresolved questions about future generations, rights of nature, and implementation.

You can read the blog post [here](#).

Blog Series: Developments on Human Rights and the Environment in the Global South by Patricio Trincado Vera and Julian Suarez



Given the strong group of experts brought together for the workshop “Developments on Human Rights and the Environment in the Global South”, organised by the Working Group on Climate Crisis and Human Rights of the Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research, this blog series aims at sharing some of the contributions made during that event with a wider audience. With their blog, Patricio Trincado Vera and Julián Eduardo Suárez Bohórquez introduce the series.

You can read the blog post [here](#).

Would you like your news item included in the next newsletter?

Email nnhrr@asser.nl with the desired text and image before the end of the month!

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Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research

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R.J. Schimmelpennincklaan 20-22, 2517 JN Den Haag, The Netherlands

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