

Fourth Annual NNHRR Conference

Toogdag 2021

Human Rights and Vulnerability



22nd - 24th June 2021

Hosted by VU Amsterdam and University of Amsterdam

Online

Toogdag 2021

Human Rights and Vulnerability

Tuesday, 22 June

PhD Poster Presentations

10:30-12:00

PhD Workshop: The Power of Terminology—the Promises and Pitfalls of “Vulnerability” in the Human Rights Context

13:30-15:00

Dr. Monika Mayrhofer, University of Vienna, Austria

This workshop aims to sensitise PhD students to the power and risks of the concept of ‘vulnerability’ in human rights research and explores if and how this term and similar labels can be used in a mindful way. Dr. Mayrhofer will provide an introduction to the theory behind the concept of vulnerability in the human rights context and offer a critique, after which participants will have the opportunity to discuss practical examples and exchange their own experiences and ideas.

PhD Workshop: Ethical Challenges of Human Rights Research with Vulnerable Groups

Prof. Göran Sluiter, University of Amsterdam

15:30-17:00

This interactive workshop will seek to explore the ethical challenges of researching and engaging with ‘vulnerable’ populations by drawing on the experience of Prof. Sluiter in working with victims of human rights abuses.

Online game night

20:00-21:30

Join us on Zoom for this exciting icebreaker! We have prepared a fun programme and all conference participants are welcome. More details to follow via email.

Wednesday, 23 June

**Welcome by Prof. Yvonne Donders, University of Amsterdam,
Chair of the NNHRR Steering Committee**

10:30-10:45

Plenary Panel on Human Rights and Vulnerability

10:45-12:00

Moderator: Dr. Ingrid Leijten, Leiden University

The panel will explore the concept of vulnerability from multiple standpoints in the field of human rights, including its application in relation to migration and environmental issues. This will be followed

by a broader discussion on the prospects and limitations of vulnerability as a concept in human rights law.

- Dr. Lieneke Slingenberg, VU Amsterdam
- Dr. Alexandra Timmer, Utrecht University
- Dr. Moritz Baumgärtel, Utrecht University
- Prof. Louis Kotzé, North-West University, South Africa

Lunch Break

12:00-13:30

Round table Discussion on Research concerning Persons with Disabilities

13:30-15:00

This is an open round table aimed at bringing together scholars focusing on disability rights in the Netherlands and beyond. Attendees will be asked to share their ongoing work on these topics. This will be followed by a discussion moderated by Prof Yvonne Donders on whether it is viable to create a new working group at the NNHRR dedicated to the rights of persons with disabilities and related areas to enable future academic collaboration around these issues.

- Dr Kees Blankman, Professor Legal Protection of Elderly and Adults with Disabilities, VU Amsterdam & Rieneke Stelma-Roorda, PhD researcher, VU Amsterdam
 - Older Adults with Impaired Capacity
- Natalie Schuck, PhD researcher, University of Groningen
 - Mental Health
- Dr Lisa Waddington, Professor in European Disability Law, Maastricht University
 - Research concerning International and European Disability Rights
- Adriana Caballero Pérez, PhD researcher, Maastricht University
 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Training Network Project - DARE (Disability Advocacy Research in Europe)

Online coffee break

15:00-15:30

Keynote Session by Prof. Gerard Quinn, UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

15:30-16:30

Chair: Karin de Vries, VU Amsterdam

Respondent: Prof Kees Blankman, VU Amsterdam

Thursday, 24 June

Vulnerability and Business and Human Rights

9:00-11:00

Convened by the NNHRR Business and Human Rights Working Group

The Business and Human Rights Working Group will host a panel discussion focusing on the experiences of children and indigenous peoples and corporate activities in conflict areas. The panel discussion will be followed by a Q&A session.

- Dr Gamze Erdem Türkelli, University of Antwerp
 - Children and Business and Human Rights
- Dr Laura Íñigo Álvarez, NOVA Knowledge Centre for Business, Human Rights and the Environment
 - Non-judicial Grievance Mechanisms
- Dr Jonathan Kolieb, Graduate School of Business and Law, RMIT University, Australia
 - TBD
- Timeela Manandhar, PhD Candidate at Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict, Ruhr University Bochum
 - TBD

Migration and Vulnerability

11:30-13:00

Convened by the NNHRR Migration and Borders Working Group

This webinar will employ a conceptual perspective to explore aspects of vulnerability within the context of migration. The speakers' presentations will be followed by a Q&A session.

- Dr Moritz Baumgärtel, Utrecht University and University College Roosevelt
 - Migratory Vulnerability as a Way to Reassert Article 14 of the ECHR (Prohibition of Discrimination)
- Dr Stephanie Rap, Leiden University, member of the Working Group
 - Vulnerability and Child Migrants
- Jordan Dez, VU Amsterdam, member of the Working Group
 - Irregular Migrants and Judith Butler's Theory of Vulnerability and Resistance

Vulnerability and Human Rights in the Digital Age

13:30-15:00

Convened by the NNHRR Human Rights in the Digital Age Working Group

The panel will explore different human rights ramifications of the concept of vulnerability in the digital age. Each speaker will address the relevance of vulnerability in their specific area of research, such as freedom of expression, privacy and data protection, the right to free and fair elections, the power of platforms and AI. The panellists will also explore selected aspects of the Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on upholding equality and protecting against discrimination and hate.

- Dr Lottie Lane, University of Groningen
- Paddy Leerssen, IViR, University of Amsterdam
- Eva Nave, E-Law, Leiden University
- Leon Trapman, Radboud University Nijmegen