



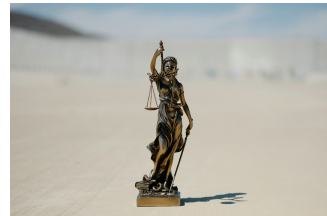
Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research

May 2025 Newsletter

[Last Chance to Register] Toogdag 2025: Access to Justice (A2J)

Dates: Wednesday 11 June 2025 – Thursday 12 June 2025

Location: Radboud University, Grotius building (Montessorilaan 10, 6525HR Nijmegen)



There is still time to register for the [Toogdag](#) at [Radboud University](#), Nijmegen! On **Wednesday 11 June** the Network will host a **PhD Workshop**. On **Thursday 12 June**, the Network's annual conference, on the theme of **Access to Justice (A2J)**, will take place. The plenary sessions will reflect on the theme of A2J more broadly, while the parallel sessions will focus on specific topics related to the five working groups - human rights in the digital age, business & human rights, migration & borders, human rights in the climate crisis, economic, social and cultural rights - as well as specific areas of (Dutch) law - administrative, criminal, and private.

Find a detailed programme overview [here](#).

Registration



[Call for Nominations] Max van der Stoep Human Rights Award 2025

Date: Wednesday 10 December 2025

Location: Tilburg University

The [Max van der Stoep Human Rights Award](#) celebrates early-career researchers in the field of human rights. The upcoming edition will take place on **10 December 2025** at [Tilburg University](#). The jury will select the **Best Doctoral Thesis** (defended between 1 June 2023 and 1 June 2025) and the **Best Masters Thesis** (defended or published between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2025). **Each faculty may nominate one candidate for the Best Doctoral Thesis category before 1 July 2025 and one candidate for the Best Master Thesis category before 1 October 2025.**

Find out more



[Save the Date] Doctoral Research Forum

Date: Friday 30 January 2026

Location: Maastricht University

If you are a PhD student interested in presenting your research ideas and receiving valuable insights and feedback from academics in the field, please consider submitting an abstract for the annual [Doctoral Research Forum](#). Watch out for the call for abstracts, which will be announced in September. In the meantime, please save the date of **30 January 2026**. For questions, reach out to nnhrr@asser.nl.

[Call for Abstracts] Advancing Social, Economic, and Cultural Rights in a Polarised, Digitalised, and Unequal World

Deadline: Monday 30 June 2025



"Advancing Social, Economic, and Cultural Rights in a Polarised, Digitalised, and Unequal World" is the Launching Conference of the [NNHRR Working Group on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights](#) and of the project "Evolving Rights: Social Rights in the Era of Climate Change and Digital Revolution". It will take place at [Leiden University](#) on **4 and 5 September 2025**. The conference calls for papers exploring legal, theoretical, and practical aspects of economic, social, and cultural rights, especially in relation to enforcement, constitutional frameworks, and global challenges like climate change, inequality, technology, and authoritarianism. Contributions from **early career and established scholars and practitioners**, with a focus on interdisciplinary and cross-jurisdictional perspectives, are welcomed. **The deadline to submit an abstract is 30 June.**



[Looking Back] PhD Training for 1st and 2nd Year Candidates

This year's [PhD Training for 1st and 2nd Year Students](#) took place on **22 and 23 May 2025** at [Leiden University](#). It explored the intersection between legal scholarship and activism through a series of lectures, seminars, and discussions with leading academics and practitioners.

[Looking Back] Workshop on Multi-stakeholder Collaboration under the CSDDD

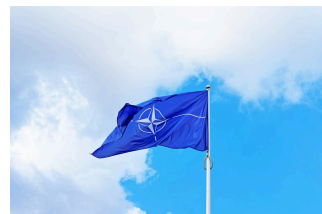
On **14 May 2025**, the [Business & Human Rights Working Group](#), in collaboration with the [Amsterdam Centre for International Law](#), hosted a workshop on "Multi-stakeholder Collaboration under the CSDDD". Through a keynote speech and three expert panels, the workshop explored the collaboration between public, private, and civil societal actors, both in the making of the CSDDD, its implementation, and its enforcement mechanisms.



[NATO Summit 2025] Building Societal Resilience: a Whole-of-Society Approach

Date: Thursday 5 June 2025, 12.30

Location: The Hague University of Applied Sciences



On **Thursday 5 June**, the Hague University of Applied Sciences will host an event on "*Building societal resilience: a whole-of-society approach*" ahead of the NATO Summit. Asser Institute researcher, [León Castellanos-Jankiewicz](#), will speak on "*Can arms trade bring about peace?*" during the first breakout session.

For more information, [click here](#).



[Round table] Geopolitical Uncertainty, (In)Secure Borders, and the 'Foreign Terrorist Fighters' Phenomenon

Date: Wednesday 11 June 2025, 15.30

Location: T.M.C. Asser Institute

Join the [Asser Institute](#) on **Wednesday 11 June** for the launch of "*Europe's Foreign Fighter Conundrum: Legal Responses, the Rule of Law, and Human Rights*" by [Tarik Gherbaoui](#). The book explores how Europe can address the security challenges posed by foreign fighters without compromising its commitment to the rule of law and human rights, focusing in particular on the complex legal responses to European individuals who joined the armed conflict in Syria and Iraq.

For more information, [click here](#).

[Early Career Conference] Humanitarian Disarmament

Dates: Thursday 11 September 2025 – Friday 12 September 2025

Location: T.M.C. Asser Institute



The Asser Institute's early career conference series offers PhD and postdoctoral researchers a platform to present their work on international arms control law and connect with peers and experts. The 2025 edition focuses on "*Humanitarian disarmament*", an approach to arms control that prioritises the protection of civilians and the environment. The conference comes at a critical moment, as several NATO-bordering countries announce plans to exit key disarmament treaties, raising concerns about the future of civilian protections in conflict.

For more information, [click here](#).



[Call for Contributions] High-Level Conference on the European Social Charter

Dates: Wednesday 18 March 2026 – Thursday 19 March 2026

Location: Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Deadline for Contributions: Sunday 15 June 2025

As part of Moldova's Presidency of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, a High-Level Conference on the European Social Charter will be held in Chişinău, on 18–19 March 2026. Ministers, civil society, and experts will gather to reaffirm social rights commitments, evaluate Charter reforms, and address today's most pressing challenges.

Find the call for contributions [here](#).

[New Blog Post] More Than a Verdict: Local Perspectives on the Pakistan Reko Diq Dispute



In a new blog post on the **Business and Human Rights Journal blog**, authors Asif Khan, [Dmytro Cherneha](#) and [Stephanie Triefus](#), Academic Coordinator of the NNHRR, argue that the arbitration case between the Australian copper company *Tethyan v. Pakistan* has largely overlooked local perspectives, prioritising resource development over the well-being of affected communities.

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

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.



International World Press Freedom Day (3 May 2025): Journalists in the Crosshairs of Protest Repression by Alice Dejean de la Bâtie [5 May]

As protest repression intensifies, journalists are caught in the crossfire. Treated as participants rather than observers, they risk arrest, violence and prosecution simply for documenting dissent. This threatens press freedom and narrows civic space.

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

HRH Profile Series of NNHRR Working Group of ESCR: Tackling Racial Discrimination Through Structural Implementation of Human Rights Law by Eduardo Arenas Catalán & Leigh Haynes [12 May]



In this contribution, the authors look at the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, General Recommendation No. 37 on racial discrimination in the enjoyment of the right to health. The recommendation suggests that a structural approach is effective in tackling the challenge of racial discrimination. After highlighting how the recommendation addresses structural challenges, this piece offers a discussion as to how the General Recommendation can serve as a source of inspiration for human rights law and human rights law research in addressing racial discrimination as a systemic problem.

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

HRH Profile Series of NNHRR Working Group of ESCR: The Elusive Quest for Affordable Energy? Challenges in the EU and Beyond by Laura Kaschny and Leonie Reins [19 May]



What does it mean for energy to be 'affordable'? This blog explores the EU's evolving energy laws and policies, including global efforts under UN SDG 7, unpacking the complex legal, economic, and human rights challenges that stand in the way of defining equitable access to sustainable energy.

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



Women's Sexual and Reproductive Rights under Threat: Examining the Global Scenario by María Paz Daza Carniglia, [23 May]

Women's sexual and reproductive rights are being targeted by regressive measures in different regions of the world. For instance, new laws have resulted in complete bans on abortion procedures, affecting women's rights such as private life, health and life. This blog aims to highlight international human rights standards on the matter and how international human rights courts continue to reinforce them, providing a reference point.

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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