



Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research

July 2025 Newsletter

[Save the Date] Doctoral Research Forum

Date: 30 January 2026

Location: Maastricht University



The [Doctoral Research Forum](#) brings together PhD and senior human rights researchers. It provides a collaborative environment in which participants can present their research, engage in discussions about their work, and build connections. It also offers an opportunity for mentorship, promoting interaction between junior and senior members of the academic community. The upcoming edition of the [Doctoral Research Forum](#) will take place on **30 January 2026** at [Maastricht University](#). The call for abstracts will be announced in September.

To learn about previous editions, please consult our [website](#).



[Call for Nominations of Master Theses] Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award 2025

Deadline: 1 October 2025

We invite faculties to nominate **Master Theses** for the [Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award](#) before **1 October 2025**. Manuscripts must have been defended or published between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2025 and be written in Dutch or English. Each applicant must submit a PDF version of their Thesis, together with a nomination letter signed by the relevant authority at the faculty level via email to nnhrr@asser.nl.

More information is available [here](#).

[Working Group Conference] Advancing Social, Economic, and Cultural Rights

Dates: 4 – 5 September 2025

Location: Leiden University



The launching conference of our [Working Group on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights](#) "Advancing Social, Economic, and Cultural Rights in a Polarised, Digitalised, and Unequal World", will take place at [Leiden University](#) on 4 and 5 September 2025. Presentations will range from legal, theoretical, and practical dimensions of ESCR, to current challenges, enforcement of ESCR through judicial and non-judicial mechanisms, as well as interdisciplinary and comparative approaches.

In-person attendance is only available to speakers and members of the [Working Group on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#). Working Group Members interested in attending should contact [Luísa Pinto E Netto](mailto:l.c.pinto.e.netto@law.leidenuniv.nl) [l.c.pinto.e.netto@law.leidenuniv.nl].



[Panel Discussion] Business and Human Rights in Times of Russia's War Against Ukraine: Rethinking Corporate Accountability

Date: 10 September 2025

Location: T.M.C. Asser Institute

This Panel Discussion, co-organised by the [T.M.C. Asser Institute](#) and the [Jean Monnet Center of Excellence on Corporate Sustainability and Human Rights](#) of Wageningen University, will critically explore how the Russian war on Ukraine has transformed the business and human rights landscape. Panelists will explore 3 key themes:

- The application of the UNGPs, heightened due diligence, and responsible business conduct in conflict settings
- Legal and moral questions of corporate complicity and the risks of maintaining or exiting operations in a complex environment (aggressor state)
- The role of businesses in transitional justice and post-war reconstruction, and integrating business and human rights into Ukraine's recovery

You can find more information on the event and the speakers [here](#).

Register Here

[Call for Papers] Evidence Matters Before Regional Human Rights Courts: The African Court in Critical and Comparative Perspective



Location & Dates: Pretoria, 11–13 May 2026

Deadline: 30 September 2025

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, this Conference investigates a key but understudied element of international human rights judicial proceedings – evidence. How is the factual basis of a human rights claim (to be) evidenced? Which party benefits when facts remain uncertain? Can the evidentiary inequality of arms between the parties be redressed? Is the purpose of evidence to find the truth – and if so, which truth? Although the Conference focuses on the African Court, the organisers are also interested in studies which address the broader sphere of international human rights adjudication, including the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies.

You can find all the relevant information [here](#).

[Publication] Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights

The June 2025 issue of the [Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights](#) (NQHR) has been published! It features contributions on a diverse range of human rights topics, including human rights law education, online violence against women, and the intersection of climate change and artificial intelligence. The newest edition is available online and open access, and can be found [here](#).

The NQHR welcomes new submissions from pre-eminent and emerging scholars from around the world.

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.

Human Rights and the Visual: Your research can be a novel! by Amr Marzouk and Federica Violi

In this blog post, Amr Marzouk and Federica Violi reflect on the third event in a series exploring the intersection of human rights and the visual. The session featured Professor Maja Janmyr, who presented Cardboard Camp, a graphic novel based on her research with Sudanese refugees in Lebanon, and Dr. Mieke Kox, who shared insights from her visual research on migrant communities in Amsterdam. The post offers an overview of the event by focusing on the experiences of Sudanese refugees as portrayed in Cardboard Camp and concludes with reflections on the importance of visual methods both as a research approach and as a means of reaching broader audiences.

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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