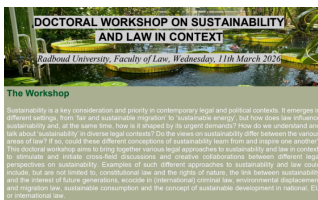




# Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research

## November 2025 Newsletter

### Calls & Opportunities



#### [Call for Papers] Doctoral Workshop on Sustainability and Public Law

- **Deadline: 30 November 2025**
- **Date: 11 March 2026**

Radboud University's Sustainability and Public Law PhDs, together with the Law and Transformation Programme at the Joachim Herz Doctoral School of Law (Leuphana University of Lüneburg), invite submissions for the second edition of their doctoral workshop taking place on **11 March 2026**. PhD candidates whose projects engage with any dimension of sustainability and law in context are warmly encouraged to apply. More information about the workshop and the application process can be found [here](#).

[Apply here](#)

#### [Call for Papers] International Conference "What Truth? Evidence as Politics in Human Rights Courts"

- **Date: 7-9 September 2026**
- **Location: Mas Boronat, Tarragona (Spain)**
- **Abstract submission deadline: 22 December 2025**



The ERC-funded DISSECT project invites submissions for its final international conference: *"What Truth? Evidence as Politics in Human Rights Courts"*. The event brings together scholars and practitioners to explore the politics of truth-seeking in human rights adjudication across regional human rights courts, commissions, and UN treaty bodies. Participants are encouraged to engage with questions on the role of factual truth in human rights litigation, the influence of institutional and extra-legal factors on evidentiary processes, and the diverse conceptualisations of "truth" in adjudicatory settings. Participation is in person only. For more information, [click here](#). For questions, contact [dissect.erc@ugent.be](mailto:dissect.erc@ugent.be)

Registration



## [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](mailto:nnhrr@asser.nl) with the subject line "PhD Spotlight - [your name]".

## [Call for Papers] One-day workshop "The Promise of the Pact? What the EU promised but the Pact on Migration and Asylum does not deliver"



- **Workshop date:** 22 May 2026
- **Location:** Radboud University Nijmegen
- **Deadline:** 9 January 2026

As Member States prepare to transpose the Pact into national law by June 2026, it is important to critically examine the persistent gaps between EU ambitions and legislative outcomes. With this in mind, the Centre for Migration Law (RU), the Institute for European Law (KU Leuven), and the Amsterdam Centre for Constitutional Culture and Democratic Governance (UvA) invite paper proposals for the one-day workshop *"The Promise of the Pact? What the EU Promised but the Pact on Migration and Asylum Does Not Deliver."* Researchers at all career stages, especially PhD candidates, are encouraged to submit abstracts (max. 400 words). Email your abstract to [Karin Zwaan](#) with the **subject line "Pact workshop 2026"**. For more information, [click here](#).



# Events & Education



## [T.M.C. Asser Annual Lecture] Prof. Joyeeta Gupta: Protecting the Public Interest in Times of Climate Change

- **Date:** 26 November 2025
- **Time:** 17:00
- **Location:** Building of the Supreme Court of The Netherlands



The conversation on climate change is shifting. Beyond reducing emissions, the urgent question is now one of institutional design: what new systems of governance can effectively protect the global public interest? Spinoza Prize winner [Professor Joyeeta Gupta](#) will address this directly at our 10th T.M.C. Asser Annual Lecture. Her lecture will outline a practical and theoretical path forward, from leveraging climate litigation today to envisioning a global constitution for tomorrow. It's a perspective grounded in decades of research, arguing that what seems idealistic now may soon become necessary. We welcome anyone whose work engages with questions of international law, climate, justice, and the international order to attend. More information is available [here](#).

Registration



## [Expert Roundtable] Promises, Processes, and Pitfalls in International Criminal Justice Today

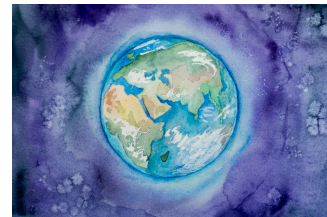
- **Date:** 4 December 2025
- **Time:** 09:30 - 11:00
- **Location:** University of Amsterdam

International criminal justice is a 'human' process: idealistic, emotional, flawed, messy, and even boring. What are the biggest opportunities, and challenges, for the international criminal justice project today? How can Courts grapple with ongoing challenges, and better live up to their promises? What elements of justice have past and present Courts continued to overlook, and what is the way forward? What does it mean to be a practitioner, researcher, or observer of international justice today? How do we analyse or engage with Courts? How do we experience the process of doing so? On **Thursday 4 December**, the [University of Amsterdam](#), the [Centre for International Criminal Justice at VU Amsterdam](#), and the NNHRR invite you to an informal expert roundtable where scholars and practitioners will come together to reflect on some of these questions, and their experiences of engaging with international criminal justice from a variety of angles. Learn more about the speakers [here](#).

Registration

## [Workshop] Developments on Human Rights and the Environment in the Global South

- **Date:** 4 December 2025
- **Time:** 09:00–17:00
- **Location:** Leiden University College Auditorium,
- **Registration deadline:** 1 December 2025



The [NNHRR Working Group on Human Rights & the Climate Crisis](#) invites you to its inaugural workshop on “*Developments on Human Rights and the Environment in the Global South*.” The event highlights legal innovations emerging from Latin America, Africa, and Indigenous communities worldwide, foregrounding their contributions to global debates on environmental protection and human rights. The workshop provides an interdisciplinary space for scholars and practitioners to explore regional developments, conceptual debates, and strategies for advancing collaborative research.

Registration



## [Event] Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award 2025 Ceremony

- **Date:** 10 December 2025
- **Time:** 15:00–17:00
- **Location:** Tilburg University, ([Room MKZ 111](#), [Marga Klompé building](#))
- **Registration deadline:** 1 December 2025

Join us on International Human Rights Day as we present the [Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award 2025](#), organised by the Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research, Tilburg Law School, and Studium Generale. The award recognises outstanding PhD and master's theses in the field of human rights and commemorates Max van der Stoel's legacy as OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and professor of International and European Law. For questions, contact [nnhrr@asser.nl](mailto:nnhrr@asser.nl).

Information & Invitation

## Publications

### [New Book Publication] The Companion to the European Convention on Human Rights



[The Companion to the European Convention on Human Rights](#), edited by [Kushtrim Istrefi](#), Zane Ratniece, and Krešimir Kamber, has now been published. This volume presents the first comprehensive analysis of nearly 300 core concepts that structure the ECHR system, encompassing substantive rights, procedural norms, institutional principles, and doctrinal foundations. By tracing how these notions have evolved through the case law of the European Court of Human Rights, the book offers a detailed resource for scholars and practitioners seeking to understand how the Court has conceptualised and shaped rights protection in Europe.

### Call for Contributions!

Would you like us to feature your publication on the NNHRR Newsletter? Then reach out to [nnhrr@asser.nl](mailto:nnhrr@asser.nl).



## 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](mailto:humanrightshere@asser.nl) and check [here](#) for the requirements.



### Breaking the Cycle: Promoting Action and Understanding of Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder Through the Right to Mental Health by Monique van Cauwenberghe

A human rights approach to mental health promotes and protects dignity, equality and non-discrimination, particularly in the provision of health care. As such, applying a right to mental health framework to premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD), which has for too long gone under-researched and poorly understood, provides the scaffolding to advocate for improved responses, including improved health services, research, policy and dedicated funding for PMDD. This blog post delves into this further.

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

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## Celebrating 75 years of the ECHR - Blog Series: Behind the Scenes of the ECtHR's Practice – "There Are Many Constitutional Courts, But Only One ECtHR In Strasbourg" An Interview with Professor Linos-Alexandre Sicilianos on his Tenure as Judge and President at the European Court of Human Rights by Annkathrin Dix, Lente de Vries, and Judith Obiekwe



To mark 75 years of the ECHR, *Human Rights Here* has the honour of hosting an interview with Professor Linos-Alexandre Sicilianos, former Judge and President of the European Court of Human Rights (2011-2021), on the role of the judges and his insights into the institutional functioning of the Court. The blog is written by LLM Students Annkathrin Dix, Lente de Vries and Judith Ndaraku Obiekwe and inaugurates the second cycle of the blog series Behind the Scenes of the ECtHR's practice, a collaboration with the University of Groningen, Faculty of Law.

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



## Freedom of Political Expression and the Limits of Trademark Power: IKEA v. Vlaams Belang by Elena Izyumenko

Elena Izyumenko explores the limits of freedom of political expression in Europe in light of the pending CJEU case *IKEA v. Vlaams Blang*. This post delves into how the Court might reconcile trademark protection with democratic pluralism under Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

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

## Exodus on the Horizon: Tuvalu's Mass Climate Visa Applications Signal a New Era in Human Rights and Climate Migration by Dan Ziebarth



On 30 June 2025, 3,000 of Tuvalu's citizens applied for Australia's new climate visa. Tuvalu could become uninhabitable within the next 80 years. Australia's agreement with Tuvalu, known as the Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union, is the first of its kind, globally,

offering 280 annual visas for Tuvaluan adults to reside, work, and study in Australia. With over 3,000 applicants, many Tuvaluans may face decade-long waits, leaving thousands in uncertainty as their homeland continues to degrade. The blog post explores the far-reaching implications for international law, policy, and the concept of home and human rights in the face of climate catastrophe.

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



## **Blog Series: Behind the Scenes of the ECtHR's Practice - "I do think that Rule 9 is a powerful tool". An interview with Wiene van Hattum on the implementation of the European Court of Human Rights judgments**

As part of the International Human Rights Law in Practice course for the LL.M. International Human Rights Law at the University of Groningen, the (former) students had the privilege of interviewing Dr. Wiene van Hattum, the chairman of Forum Levenslang, about the process of writing a Rule 9, par.2, submission to the Committee of Ministers. As part of its mission of protecting the interests of prisoners who have been sentenced to life without the option of parole, Forum Levenslang has submitted several communications to the Committee of Ministers in the *Murray v the Netherlands* case before the European Court of Human Rights based on Rule 9, Par. 2. The blog is written by LLM (former) Students Shannon Kiernan, Rachael Smyth, Harpo Vogelsang, and Daria Stoianovici and it is part of the second cycle of the blog series Behind the Scenes of the ECtHR's practice, a collaboration with the University of Groningen, Faculty of Law.

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

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

Email [nnhrr@asser.nl](mailto: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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