Regional Human Rights Systems from a Comparative Perspective

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
12 – 13 December 2019

European University Institute, Florence
Villa Salvati, Law Department

PROGRAM
For details on the program, please see next page.
Participation in the conference is free of charge, but requires previous registration.

List of Participants and their Affiliation

Andreas von Arnould Kiel University
Mark Dawson Hertie School of Governance/EUI
Tim Eicke European Court of Human Rights
Tamirace Fakhoury Lebanese American University
Eleni Frantziou Durham University
Hans-Joachim Heintze Ruhr University Bochum
David Kinley University of Sydney
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Alice Ollino University of Milano-Bicocca
Sabrina Ragone University of Bologna
Michael Riegner Humboldt University Berlin
Mervat Rushadawi Universities of Essex & Nottingham
Martin Scheinin EUI
Pierre Thielbörger Ruhr University/EUI
Christian Tomuschat Humboldt University Berlin
Frans Viljoen University of Pretoria

Moderators

Neha Jain EUI
Ernst-Ulrich Petersmann EUI
Urška Šadl EUI
Margot Salomon London School of Economics
Joanne Scott EUI

CONTACT
If you want to register or have any questions, please contact: regionalhumanrights@rub.de
For further information visit: www.ifhv.de

ORGANIZERS

Pierre Thielbörger Main Organizer
Tamirace Fakhoury Cooperating Organizer
Vanessa Bliecke Assistant Organizer
Rouven Diekjobst Assistant Organizer

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The protection of human rights is not only a national and global endeavor. However, despite human rights' supposedly universal reach, there are still many problems within the different regional systems of protection, such as substantive protection gaps or weaknesses in enforceability. The conference addresses these problems by looking to regional human rights mechanisms with a view to detecting their respective strengths and weaknesses, and to identify lessons for the global system to be learned from regional ones, and for regional systems to learn from each other. In light of significant recent developments, both politically and legally, it appears to be high time to spark the debate on regional human rights systems again.

**THURSDAY**
12 December 2019

12:00 - 13:00 Welcome Lunch for organizers, speakers and moderators (Sala degli Stimmli)

13:00 - 13:15 Introduction Pierre Thielbörger (Sala deli Conigli)

13:15 - 14:45 PANEL 1: Universality vs. Particularity

GUIDING QUESTION
How do regional human rights systems manage the tension between the universality of human rights and the particularity of value systems and systems of government(s)?

Christian Tomuschat
Interrelation of human rights in regional instruments: Moderation – but forceful defence of the basic foundations of human dignity

Martin Schelin
Universality vs. Particularity: the perspective of UN treaty bodies and regional human rights systems

Mervat Rishmawi
Universality vs. Particularity: the perspective from the League of Arab States' human rights system

Moderator: Niels Jahn

14:45 - 16:00 Coffee Break (Sala della Conchiglia)

16:00 - 18:00 PANEL 2: New Rights and New Concepts

GUIDING QUESTION
Do judges establish new human rights or new concepts, e.g. relating to territoriality or essence, and how do they do so?

Andreas von Arnaud
New human rights in different national human rights systems

Pierre Thielbörger
A notion of ‘essence’ of human rights in regional human rights systems

Alice Ollino
Recent developments on extraterritoriality in different regional human rights systems

Moderator: Urika Sæl

18:30 - 19:45 Coffee Break (Sala della Conchiglia)

19:45 - 18:15 PANEL 3: Populism

GUIDING QUESTION
How do regional courts respond to the populist wave in modern political in their region, in particular how to they address challenges relating to lack of compliance?

Mark Dawson
Coping with the “Populist Challenge” to EU fundamental rights

Tim Eicke
Populism from the point of view of the European Court of Human Rights

Sabrina Ragone
Countering Populism and Non-Compliance: Approaches by the Inter-American human rights system

 Moderator: Ernst-Unrich Petersmann

20:00 Conference dinner for organizers, speakers and moderators

**FRIDAY**
13 December 2019

9:00 - 9:30 Coffee Break (Sala della Conchiglia)

9:30 - 11:30 PANEL 4: Vulnerable Groups

GUIDING QUESTION
How do the regional systems adapt to societal challenges relating to vulnerable groups, e.g. forced migration, environmental degradation, abuse of children or increasing homophobia?

Frane Viljoen
LGBT rights in regional human rights systems with a focus on the African human rights system

Lys Kulamadayi
Resource exploitation in different regional human rights systems

Tamirace Fakhoury
Refugee law and politics in the Middle East: how legal and political refugee regimes clash

Hans-Joachim Heintze
Children’s rights in different regional human rights systems

Moderator: Joanne Scott

11:30 - 11:45 Coffee Break (Sala della Conchiglia)

11:45 - 13:15 PANEL 5: Business and Finance

GUIDING QUESTION
Are there elements of horizontalization of human rights in regional systems, e.g. do judges hold other entities responsible apart from States (e.g. companies or financial institutions)?

Michael Rieger
Business and human rights in the European, African and Inter-American human rights systems

Eleni Frantziliou
The horizontalization of human rights in the EU

David Kinley
Finance and human rights: where the local is global

Moderator: Margaret Salmon

13:15 - 13:30 Conclusion Pierre Thielbörger & Tamirace Fakhoury

13:30 - 14:30 Goodbye lunch for for organizers, speakers and moderators (Sala degli Stimmli)

From 14:30 Departure of participants

**REGISTER**

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