



Mobilising  
Young People  
*for a*  
Human Rights  
Based  
World Order



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The vision of the Global Campus of Human Rights is to foster new generations of human rights defenders able to contribute to a world in which human dignity, equality, freedom, human security, sustainable development, democracy, the rule of law and respect for all human rights are realised.

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In 2022, we concentrated our efforts on supporting children and young people who want to address the many transversal and existential challenges to human rights and democracy.

#### The Global Campus and the SDGs

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Our work focuses primarily on the achievement of



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**Global Campus of Human Rights**  
Annual Report 2022

February 2023

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## Table of contents

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04	Welcome	32	Africa
05	Foreword	36	Arab World
07	The network	40	Asia-Pacific
		46	Caucasus
08	The year in review	50	Europe
10	Global Campus stories from Ukraine and neighbouring countries	54	Latin America-Caribbean
13	Confronting human rights scepticism	58	South East Europe
15	Children and young people as agents of change	62	Alumni and alumnae inspire us
16	Child-led International Conference on Mental Health	64	Venice connections
17	Second Global State of Human Rights Conference: children's rights in focus	66	The Global Campus in numbers
22	Fighting mis- and disinformation	67	Finances
23	The tricky task of promoting human rights education on social media	68	Sneak peek at 2023...
24	Emergency support for Afghan human rights scholars and students: growing the programme in year two	70	In memoriam
26	Empowering visual media professionals		
28	A sample of events and programmes		

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# Welcome



**Verónica Gómez — President**

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The Global Campus of Human Rights is pleased to present the highlights of twelve months of active work in capacity building and promoting human rights and democracy in its 2022 Annual Report.

The Report provides insights into the achievements of the Global Campus' hallmark seven regional Master's programmes, their common activities and research outlets, and the continuation of their efforts to build capacity and raise awareness of human rights and democracy around the world. The Report also focuses on the innovative and successful open access courses offered during 2022, in particular the MOOC *Science and Human Rights*, in partnership with UNESCO; the specialised training courses with a

focus on human rights defenders; and the various activities devoted to the promotion of children's rights through education and research, including child-led activities in several regions of the world.

These outcomes were possible thanks to the financial support of the European Union, Right Livelihood and other donors, as well as the co-funding and unwavering commitment of our partner universities and the dedication shown by our staff at headquarters in Venice and at our regional hubs.

As President of the Global Campus, it is an honour for me to share this Annual Report with our partners, network and friends.



Thus, it is not surprising that the third Annual Report of the Global Campus, covering the year 2022, strongly focuses on our activities related to the war in Ukraine. This annual report is a collection of highlights, as it would be impossible to report on all our activities across our seven world regions. As the world's largest institution for post-graduate human rights education, we strengthened our commitment and social responsibility as a network of one hundred universities through the context of the Venice School on Human Rights Defenders in cooperation with the European Parliament and Sakharov Fellows and with our emergency support to threatened Afghan human rights scholars and students. We also provided visibility to Right Livelihood Laureates and are developing, in partnership with Right Livelihood, a new multi-year programme aimed at supporting human rights experts and defenders in exile, with a strong focus on Russian and Ukrainian individuals.

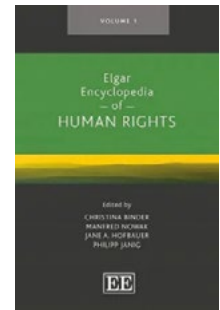
Mainstreaming children's rights in all our activities and supporting children as agents of change remains a key focus with many specific programmes and projects, such as our first child-led Global Campus International Conference on Mental Health, organised by our colleagues at the Kathmandu School of Law, and the establishment of our global Child Leadership Team. The second Venice Conference on the Global State of Human Rights, organised in cooperation with the European Parliament and Right Livelihood, was devoted entirely to children's rights. It focused on significantly reducing the number of children behind bars, addressing the suffering of children in armed conflicts, and supporting the role of children as change-makers in the global climate crisis and other challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Global Campus remains a key player in the dissemination and implementation of the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, underlined at the Global Forum on Justice for Children and Deprivation of Liberty in Mauritania where

progress in the implementation of the Study's recommendations has been assessed over the last three years.

Another highlight was the "Dili Human Rights Education Week" in December, which, as part of the celebrations of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the independence of Timor Leste, ended a highly successful capacity development project and culminated in the formal handover of our interdisciplinary Human Rights Centre to the National University of Timor Leste. In June, our colleagues at the Human Rights Centre of Pretoria University hosted a highly successful Global Classroom on internal displacement. In July, we strengthened our cooperation with the OSCE Academy in Bishkek by participating in their Summer School on Human Security in Central Asia. The OSCE Academy in Bishkek will be the coordinator of the eighth regional Master of the Global Campus with a focus on Central Asia, starting in autumn 2023 and funded jointly by the EU and OSCE participating states.

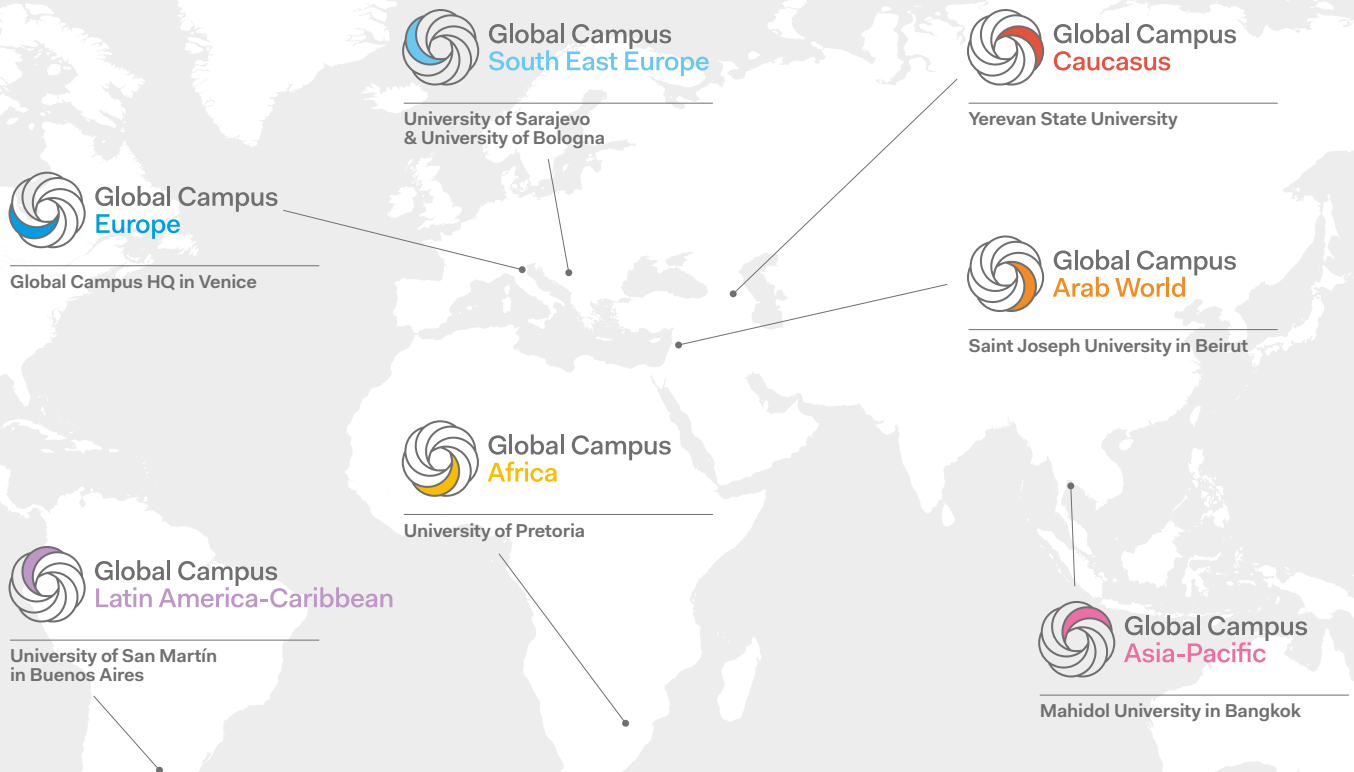
The Annual Report 2022 also highlights a significant increase in our digital activities promoting global human rights education through online teaching, MOOCs, social media and empowering visual media professionals.

Finally, the Report demonstrates how the Global Campus actively links the arts and human rights. This idea was exhibited by our traditional Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy during the Venice Film Festival; our close cooperation with Belgian artist Koen Vanmechelen in organising Cosmocafés aimed at establishing a Human Rights Pavilion at the Venice Art Biennale; the publication of a highly innovative book on "Music and Human Rights" in cooperation with Musicians for Human Rights; and the organisation of a very well received concert of the Human Rights Orchestra at the prestigious Teatro La Fenice in Venice.



*Elgar Encyclopedia of Human Rights*, published in 2022 and edited by GC Europe faculty Christina Binder, University of Vienna, and Manfred Nowak, GC Secretary General.

# The network



The Global Campus of Human Rights, the most extensive network of human rights educators worldwide, draws its unique resource base from almost 100 member universities organised in seven regional hubs: Africa, Arab World, Asia-Pacific, Caucasus, Europe, Latin America-Caribbean and South East Europe. Since the beginning of our adventure in 1997 and with our seven Master's programmes and various training courses, we have trained and prepared over 50,000 human rights defenders and activists in all regions.

Our multi-level identity – global, regional and local – provides a distinctive vantage point and enables us to be innovative, proactive

and responsive to emerging developments. These features are deeply valued by existing and prospective partners who want a global outreach and impact.

The coordination of the network is a complex task that needs to take into account not only different academic traditions and cultures but also multiple regional and local socio-economic and geopolitical factors. We want to thank our tireless members worldwide for their sustained commitment and, in particular, our Council members for helping the Global Campus headquarters in Venice in providing support for the whole network.



Human rights and democracy are at the core of the European External Action Service, the diplomatic service of the European Union. This is why we were invited to Brussels on 15 November to provide training on academic freedom to the Human Rights Focal Points of EU Delegations worldwide. It was a great opportunity to strengthen the collaboration between the GC and the EU delegations.

# The year in review



Manuela Pegoraro  
Academic Partnerships  
Manager

New and persistent crises are everywhere, growing and affecting individuals and organisations, including our dispersed network and the many members of our global family. But in 2022, crises have also opened opportunities, creative approaches and an ever-expanding feeling of togetherness.

In September 2022, we celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our longest-running Master's programme on Human Rights and Democratisation – the EMA programme based in Venice. It is not to be taken for granted that, with challenges old and new, we keep on offering seven postgraduate programmes and attracting existing and prospective human rights practitioners, defenders and educators. Our academic and administrative staff members have dealt on a daily basis with emergencies, external pressures, fluctuating funding, devaluation, administrative obstacles, changing legal hurdles, fast-developing digital environments and expanding areas of study. "How are you ensuring responsiveness to emerging human rights developments?" is a question we are often asked by donors, academics and students, and rightly so. This is a question we take very seriously also because it comes from within ourselves. That is why, in the academic cycle 2021/2022, several of our Master's programmes have embarked on or already implemented substantial curriculum updates and designed new learning experiences for our students – with an ongoing drive to make our human rights education not only top-notch but also transformational.

Beyond our postgraduate offer, we have tried hard to bring relevance and new perspectives into our well-established professional training courses, which include summer schools, short courses, vocational programmes and trainings for civil servants. The Global Campus' e-learning portfolio has continued to expand

through MOOCs and other online courses, attracting a diverse audience, including many young students.

Our Venice headquarters and regional hubs have developed new research, advocacy and networking initiatives spanning across multiple themes, one of them being children's rights, a focus of Global Campus work that cuts across many other domains. The achievements of 2022 also include initiatives in response to emergency situations, such as those in Ukraine, Afghanistan and Myanmar.

All of these efforts paid off. Despite the social, political and environmental turbulences experienced globally, our reputation has grown stronger. An increasing number of organisations have proposed collaborations, and we have also added new member universities that requested to join our network.

As in all large families, at times it has not been easy to strike a balance between diverse voices, aspirations and needs and reach consensus on the way forward. But in every new meeting we have organised, be it at the operational or strategic level, or conducted in English, Thai, Spanish, Arabic, Armenian or any of the other languages spoken in our network, the will to continue the journey together is sound and clear – our internal debates contribute to the network's vitality, inclusiveness and uniqueness.

In the last year, we had to say goodbye to some of our staff members and friends, either because they left to pursue new challenges, retired or sadly passed away.

Each one of us is proud to belong to the Global Campus and celebrate its achievements in 2022.



## Eamon Gilmore

### European Union Special Representative for Human Rights

In 2022, we have witnessed unprecedented challenges for human rights and democracy. We have seen the worst war crimes, peaceful demonstrations repressed in the most violent way, women and girls deprived of their most basic rights, arbitrary trials, impunity and increasing attacks against human rights defenders and their families. We have heard new narratives questioning the universality of human rights, attempting to change the agreed international human rights framework and suggesting that some human rights are more important than others.

There are even some who also seek to persuade that protecting human rights and their universality is a western idea, some kind of new form of imperialism or neo-colonialism. And in place of that universal vision of human rights, they want to put in place a view of the world that says that economic development and/or security should come first. This really twists human rights and seeks to

award rights to states and obligations to individuals. Human rights are not about imposing a vision of the world on someone else. They are the essence of our humanity.

In these complex times, the work of the Global Campus of Human Rights is more relevant than ever before, and the EU is proud of having supported the Campus since its inception more than 20 years ago, steadily expanding its network to reach global coverage in all regions of the world.

From Venice to Bangkok, Beirut to Chisinau, Buenos Aires to Dili, Pretoria to Yerevan or Sarajevo, the Campus is much more than a network of human rights education and research universities. It is a global community of advocates and defenders strongly committed to the promotion of dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, rule of law and respect for human rights. These values are in the DNA of the European Union and infuse our

relations with the rest of the world. It is no surprise therefore that the Global Campus and the EU are strong natural partners in promoting and defending human rights and democracy across the world.

In 2023, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will reach its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We need to remember why the Universal Declaration came about and we need to be inspired by the global consensus it embodied. It is possible to recapture that spirit, but we need to be more proactive, innovative and creative. We will join forces with the Global Campus, the UN, Member States, other countries, civil society, youth, the private sector and all actors committed to defending human rights around the world. We must redouble our efforts and work more closely together to, as the High Representative, Josep Borrell, has said, turn the tide on human rights.

### Goodbye to Patricia Bocchi



In 2022, we had to say goodbye to Patricia Bocchi, human rights section of the European External Action Service (EEAS), who has been assigned to a new portfolio. Patricia has been a devoted supporter and close friend of the Global Campus since the very

beginning of the EMA programme in the late 1990s. We are extremely grateful for her significant contribution and hope to cross paths many times in the future. At the same time, we welcome Domenica Bumma as our new counterpart at EEAS!



# Global Campus stories from Ukraine and neighbouring countries

On 24 February 2022, the world was in shock, but multiple volunteering movements were activated everywhere and at an impressive speed. Global Campus member universities did their part, and professors and students of our universities especially in countries bordering Ukraine (e.g. Poland, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia) organised to assist refugees, thereby underlining the social responsibility of the academic community. In particular, and as reported on by UN News, the University of Bucharest has responded with unconditional support by providing accommodation (e.g. identifying and quickly making available over 300 places for refugee students in its dormitories), food and other precious aid, including coordinating with embassies. Foreign students previously in Ukraine and coming from African, Asian and European countries were also helped by the university student associations; many of these students have expressed a willingness to learn Romanian to continue their studies in Bucharest.

Professor Radu Carp, faculty member of the European Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation and one of the organisers of support initiatives for refugees from Ukraine, has recently published the book *War in Europe. Ukraine, Romania and the Republic of Moldova in the face of Russian aggression* (in Romanian), which is a dialogue with Ukrainian journalist Marianna Prisiajnik. Marianna was offered a PhD fellowship with Prof Carp and continues her work as a journalist moving between Moldova and Romania. Lately, Prof Carp was also instrumental in purchasing a generator (currently a very rare commodity in the region) that was sent to a professor in Kyiv thus allowing him to keep on teaching online.

Dr Yevgen Gerasymenko, Deputy Director at the Institute of Law of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, is a faculty member of the Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in the Caucasus. Just before the war started, he was appointed as

one of the regional coordinators of the Global Classroom 2022, a flagship annual programme for teams of selected students from all Global Campus Master's programmes. The Global Classroom combines a research period with a week-long conference that was hosted by the University of Pretoria in 2022. Despite the dramatic situation, Dr Gerasymenko did not give up his role, led the Caucasus team in a successful research journey and was able to connect online when his team presented the paper in Pretoria. He is grateful for the powerful generator at his university provided by Prof Carp and jokingly states that he prefers his office chairs to the solid but uncomfortable university basement or the Kyiv metro station where he must go during bombing raids, even despite the fact that his office was heavily damaged by an explosion.

The pandemic provided good preparation for online learning. One month after the war started, Taras Shevchenko University decided to carry on with its programmes online. Dr Gerasymenko, in addition to his commitments, continues to teach for the Global Campus Master's programme in the Caucasus and supervise students as in previous years. The Global Classroom has been a breath of fresh air, he says.

The current dramatic situation of Ukraine's energy infrastructure has forced him and his colleagues to resort to asynchronous teaching and personalised arrangements with individual students scattered inside and outside the country. But, these academics have continued with their research work and even managed to publish a monograph and print it with a Latvian printing house.

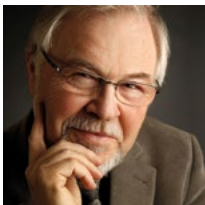
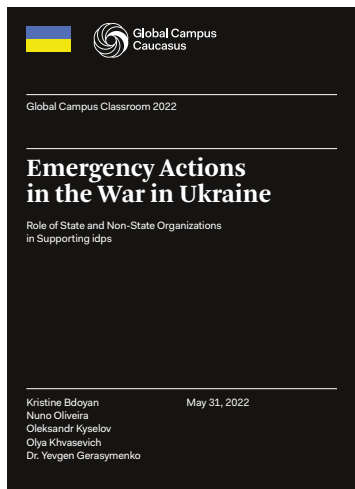
"It is my responsibility to keep on teaching for my university and the Global Campus. This is my job. [...] If the situation is safe and the war is over we're ready to welcome Global Campus students like in the past; if not, we will continue online". Working is also a coping mechanism: "It helps me to survive".



*Război în Europa* (Corint, 2022) focuses on the history of Ukraine and Ukrainians, Romanian-Ukrainian and Ukrainian-Moldovan relations and the Russian propaganda lies about the Ukrainian past.



The topic of the Global Classroom 2022 was internal displacement. Dr Gerasymenko, who is an expert in the field and was displaced himself for a while, coordinated a team of four students who chose to research on *Emergency Actions in the War in Ukraine – Role of State and Non-State Organizations in Supporting IDPs*. Their article, together with the other articles written in the context of the Global Classroom 2022, will be published in the Global Campus Human Rights Journal in March 2023.



## Wolfgang Benedek

European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy, University of Graz

The Russian aggression against Ukraine violates all basic principles of the present international legal order as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations of 1945 or the Helsinki Accord of 1975, in particular the respect of sovereign equality of states, territorial integrity and inviolability of frontiers, the prohibition of the use of force, the obligation to settle differences by peaceful means and the right to political and economic self-determination as well as the respect of human rights.

In the first period of the war, information on alleged violations of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and human rights emerged which prompted the use of the so-called Moscow Mechanism of the OSCE by Ukraine, supported by 45 Participating States. The Mechanism allows for the establishment of a mission of inquiry by three independent experts to provide a

report within three weeks. Because of my experience as rapporteur under the Moscow Mechanism in two previous missions on Chechnya and Belarus I was asked to chair the mission. In view of the ongoing attacks in many parts of Ukraine we could not visit the country, but collected the information from all available sources, besides Ukraine in particular a United Nations monitoring mission on the ground as well as local and international NGOs. Of particular importance was the assistance by experienced investigative NGOs like Bellingcat and Truthhounds. They use satellite imagery and do open-source investigations based on the internet. In our comprehensive report presented to the OSCE Permanent Council in early April we were already able to demonstrate that there was a pattern of systematic violations of IHL and human rights, the latter in particular in the occupied areas.

The war in Ukraine teaches us the interrelatedness of IHL and human rights, including crimes against humanity. It shows the importance of human rights fact-finding as well as the relevance of the human rights approach, which allows to more fully identify violations of the rights of all persons, in particular vulnerable groups in armed conflict. Finally, it also raises the issue of accountability, to punish those responsible for the violations of IHL and human rights to avoid impunity.

Wolfgang Benedek, professor emeritus of public international law, University of Graz, Austria, former GC Europe and GC South East Europe faculty, was appointed as expert of the OSCE Moscow Mechanism's mission.

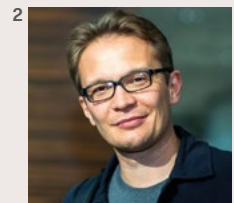
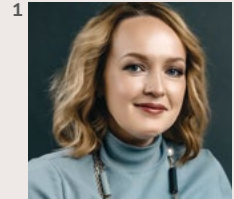
He is co-author of the *Report On Violations Of International Humanitarian And Human Rights Law, War Crimes And Crimes Against Humanity Committed In Ukraine Since 24 February 2022*.

# Russian struggle for freedom of information, yesterday and today

At the end of December 2021, Russia's Supreme Court ordered the closure of Memorial International on the grounds of the so-called "foreign agent" law, trying to wipe out three decades of work to expose the abuses and atrocities of the Stalinist era. At the end of March 2022, shortly after the beginning of the war in Ukraine, Novaya Gazeta, one of Russia's last remaining independent news outlets, was forced to cease operations. This occurred after receiving a second warning from the state censor for allegedly violating the country's same "foreign agent" law. Where is the link between a civil society organisation working on old Stalinist archives and the closure of Russia's largest remaining independent media?

In response to this attack from the Russian regime on civil society and independent media, the 2022 Venice School for Human Rights Defenders hosted a roundtable discussion on access to information in Russia, with the exceptional participation of human rights lawyer Marina Agaltsova (Memorial International) and journalist Kyrill Martynov (Novaya Gazeta). The roundtable was moderated by Laurii Mälksoo, GC Europe faculty from the University of Tartu, Estonia.

Currently living in Europe to be able to continue his work as a journalist, Martynov provided a glimpse into the difficulties that Russian people experience when accessing free and independent news. Agaltsova echoed him, reminding the participants how support for the regime is quite fragmented among Russians who fear voicing their personal opinions or participating in street protests. As a former Memorial staff, she also emphasised how unresolved and problematic restorative justice and access to information still are: Memorial's archival work is critical for understanding today's Russia. In Soviet times, hundreds of thousands were killed, and millions were persecuted as part and parcel of a state terror policy: this legacy still haunts the Russian state and the freedom of its citizens. Prof Mälksoo cited George Orwell: "Who controls the past controls the future." – When the killings of the Stalinist era are yet to be officially condemned by the Russian state, how can a citizen feel free and comfortable in exposing his own divergent thinking?



1. Independent lawyer Marina Agaltsova who formerly worked at the Memorial Human Rights Centre.

2. Kyrill Martynov is chief editor of *Novaya Gazeta Europe*.

**“By nature, I am a lonely warrior. The events of the past two years completely changed this. I understood: in tough times it is vital to stay together. Together we feel the shoulders of each other. We know if we fail, we will be supported; if we fall, we will be lifted; if we die, we will be missed. This togetherness gives us strength and courage.”** Marina Agaltsova

# Confronting human rights scepticism



George Ulrich  
Academic Director

When Angela Melchiorre and her colleagues in our E-learning Department floated the idea of developing a Global Campus podcast series, thereby branching out to a new medium, we soon agreed that a first go at this initiative could be devoted to an exploration of the theme “engaging with human rights scepticism”.

This is a topic that we have addressed in the European Master’s Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation since the early 2000s. A similar experience is shared by all other Global Campus regional programmes. While the great majority of students and scholars involved in our activities identify as fervent human rights advocates – “believers”, as it were – things look different outside our secluded classrooms. Here human rights are continually questioned from different points of view.

Some sceptics express doubts about the very idea of universal human rights and its codification in international law. Others point to possible biases in the value-base informing international human rights and suggest that it privileges so-called western values. Others again question whether the global human rights agenda is realistic in practice and capable of facilitating the types of social change that people and communities aspire to in their everyday lives.

Political sceptics target human rights from both right- and left-wing standpoints. Critics on the right are often inclined to dismiss the normative framework associated with human rights as politics in disguise, placing

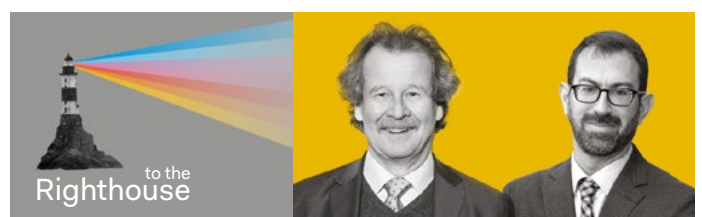
illegitimate constraints on the exercise of sovereign political decision-making. Critics on the left, conversely, lament the seemingly harmonious co-existence of ever-expanding international human rights mechanisms with growing social inequality and rising sectoral poverty levels in all parts of the world. This underscores a need for radical political and economic change before the promise of universal respect for human dignity can in fact be realised.

These are all concerns that resonate and challenge us in our teaching and practical endeavours. We need to engage with them constructively, not to dismiss voices of dissent in the first instance but rather to render our human rights commitments better informed and more resilient and perhaps learn something new.

To begin to probe the critical issues, we divided the podcast series into five sessions devoted to an exploration of 1) the very idea of engaging with human rights scepticism; 2) culture and religion-based scepticism; 3) pragmatic scepticism; 4) political scepticism; and 5) ontological scepticism. For most discussion sessions, we invited two renowned human rights experts for the given themes coming from different scholarly and regional perspectives. I assumed the role of facilitator and moderator of the debates and was ably assisted by Weronika Grelow and Manuela Pegoraro.

The podcast is available on the usual streaming platforms and at <https://anchor.fm/gchumanrights>

In episode 4 on *Rhetoric, Rupture and Rights*, Manfred Nowak engaged in a passionate debate with Samuel Moyn, Professor of Law and History at Yale University, who claims that human rights are “not enough” to address social and economic inequality in his provocative book *Not Enough: Human Rights in an Unequal World*.





## Cecilia Jimenez-Damary

**Former UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons**

The Global Classroom 2022 on internal displacement was a brilliant opportunity to gather and guide students from all over the world working on the issue of one of the most neglected migration issues in the world – the human rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs). As the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs, I was impressed with the quality of the research, the presentations and frank discussions that followed. Faculty and students were highly engaged on the issue and on situations ranging from Asia to the Caucasus, Africa and the Americas – dealing with the different types of internal displacements, their consequences on the lives of people and proposing recommendations based on the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.

The challenge of addressing this difficult subject in the human rights domain, which is often ignored by the international community and UN Member States who usually prefer to treat internal displacement as a humanitarian issue, needs to be taken on for what it is – a human rights issue. As a human rights issue, internal displacement re-focuses on the root causes of the triggers – whether it is conflict, violence, human rights violations, effects of climate change, other natural hazards, and – not given the attention it deserves – development-induced internal displacement. Moreover, as a human rights issue, internal displacement zooms in on the people concerned – those who hold roles of power and authority (the duty-bearers) and the people who suffer the consequences of being forcibly displaced (the rights-bearers), who are the IDPs

themselves, the host communities and the agencies and civil society who provide assistance. Finally, as a human rights issue, internal displacement places IDPs in the centre stage – enabling their voices, participation and decisions to be taken into account and implemented.

Indeed, the 2022 Global Classroom provided a great platform to take on this challenge! It is my hope that the students who engaged in the study of the human rights of IDPs, supported by their faculty and respective universities, will continue to pursue their paths researching on IDPs from a human rights perspective.

Cecilia Jimenez-Damary was the keynote speaker at the Global Classroom 2022. Despite her busy agenda, Cecilia generously stayed

with us for the whole programme and provided specific feedback and support to student teams.

Over 100 students, academics and experts from more than 50 countries joined, either in person or online, the four-day Global Classroom 2022 on internal displacement, amiably hosted by the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria. Students were especially delighted to network with peers and experts and receive substantial feedback on their research. Their papers will be published in the Global Campus Human Rights Journal in 2023.





# Children and young people as agents of change



Thobekile Sithole  
Children's Rights  
Manager

## Our partnership with Right Livelihood



This report was developed within the Advancing Child Rights Strategic Litigation (CRSL) Project (supported by Right Livelihood) and published in 2022. By clarifying what children's rights-consistent CRSL practice looks like and identifying examples of good practice and areas for development, the report aims to support litigators and others involved in CRSL by putting children's rights at the heart of their practice. It draws on in-depth interviews with CRSL practitioners and people with lived experience of CRSL as children across a wide range of regions.

The children's rights-focused cooperation between the Global Campus and Right Livelihood has continued to evolve and become an integral part of our activities. The vision of the cooperation is to foster the sense that we are part of a global effort across our network, advocating for sustainable change in the service of children worldwide. Since the end of 2019, we have been able to count on a motivated and dynamic team of Children's Rights Regional Officers and many partners coordinated by the GC headquarters in Venice. These officers, affectionately known as "the CRROs", have enriched the Master's programmes in the various GC regions by ensuring the mainstreaming of children's rights in the curricula; supervising students whose theses have children's rights foci; managing projects with specific goals and partners; and, in general, strengthening education, research, training, network-building and advocacy for the rights of children.

The sheer amount of activities that have been carried out in the 2021/2022 cycle, in each GC region and cross-regionally, makes it impossible to even come up with a short

summary of the achievements. Designing and teaching specific modules on children's rights; selecting students and awarding them a scholarship, including working with Cameroonian activist and Right Livelihood Laureate Marthe Wandou; implementing a Children's Rights Week and project with a focus on children in migration (very topical, especially in South East Europe); organising forums to support and improve the understanding on ethical issues and standards in academic research and advocacy on children's rights; researching child participation; and submitting comments and recommendations to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child that were taken into account in the final version of a General Comment. These are just some of the many tasks our team carried out.

We wish to thank the members of our children's rights team: Chiara Altafin, John Paul Pwa Abeng Amah, Nejira Pasič, Mariam Muradyan, Fahmina Karim, Hala Kinawi, Elvis Fokala, Rocío Comas, Santiago Plata, and Manu Krishan who worked closely with the team.

GC Asia-Pacific students participating in the *International Children's Rights Research Ethics Forum*, Bangkok, July 2022.



# Child-led International Conference on Mental Health



John Paul Pwa  
Abeng Amah  
Children's Rights  
Officer

Organised in cooperation with our Global Campus member Kathmandu School of Law and Right Livelihood, and held online on 31 January and 1 February 2022, the conference *Mental Health: Children's Perspective on Challenges and Ways Forward* was unquestionably a giant step forward in child participation at the Global Campus. It brought together 335 registered participants (with 223 being children), including children's rights experts, academics, NGO representatives, members of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence Against Children. Among the child participants, 111 constituted the core and very diverse team who had taken ownership during the build-up to the event; consulting among themselves what the most pertinent issues affecting children are and co-leading the planning of the conference.

The children comprised 67 girls and 44 boys, aged 10-18, were from Nepal, India, South Africa, Lebanon, Italy, Armenia, Brazil, Chile and Ecuador, and represented different socio-economic levels, 11 languages and multiple minority groups. Led by the Global Campus Children's Rights Regional Officers for four months before the conference, the team concluded that lack of educational mechanisms, violence against children and unhealthy competition between children were the main problems facing children, and these were impacting their mental health. The two child representatives selected by the

children from each country (18 in total) created the Global Campus Child Leadership Team (CLT) and moved forward with the thematic preparation of the conference. Children took the main stage during the two conference days to discuss problems and find solutions. Adult participants took the backseat, attentively listening to the children's input and engaging in discussions at the end of each session.

At the end of the conference, the children compiled an Action Plan: concrete proposals for what they thought should be done to solve the problems they had identified. Today, members of the GC CLT are actively engaged in disseminating it. On 7 May 2022, they met online and shared details of the Action Plan with relevant stakeholders, including members of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and other UN experts.

The conference's success inspired us to produce a Child Participation Model on how to organise truly child-led consultations with children. This model is under replication by student researchers and organisations. In addition, our ambitions are to enlarge the CLT to include children from other countries and embed it within the Global Campus structures. This idea will allow to further inform the teaching of children's rights in our regional Master's programmes and support the mainstreaming of children's rights in the different activities in the framework of the Global Campus – Right Livelihood partnership.



The Child Leadership Team worked on a video to present the goals of this new platform they have built thanks to the conference: share concerns, ideas, hopes, and build self-confidence, especially in addressing the topic of mental health. Feeling heard by and working with international experts was a major experience for these young leaders.

<https://youtu.be/wC1WThnbSdQ>

## Second Global State of Human Rights Conference: children's rights in focus



Elisabetta Noli  
Administrative Director



This year we hosted the second edition of the international conference “Global State of Human Rights”, a two-day high-level event organised with the European Parliament (EP). It addressed the impact of human rights violations on children and young people through three key thematic panels: children behind bars, children exposed to armed conflict and violence, and children and young people as drivers of change. The first panel was also an opportunity to again highlight the recommendations of the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, a study in which the Global Campus was very involved and which was made possible with the generous support of Right Livelihood.

Academics, EP members, human rights defenders and experts of local, national and international organisations shared their concerns and visions about mechanisms to prevent armed conflicts and fight global

injustice, economic inequality and the climate crisis. A specific reference to the dramatic consequences for children caused by the Russian war against Ukraine was made by Oleksii Makeiev, Special Representative on Sanctions Policies of the Ukrainian Foreign Minister.

An especially powerful experience was shared by two teenagers from Armenia, one with direct experience of the recent conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh, the region she comes from. They felt the great responsibility of guiding adults in addressing children's rights “in a proper way”: “It is more impressive when children talk about their rights rather than when adults do it [...]. Children portray psychological and other needs they have at the moment. [...] To me, one of the biggest issues is when the adults, parents and teachers do not try to understand children”.

“The war took place in my homeland in Nagorno-Karabakh. Today, me and thousands of children are prevented from living in our houses and walking in our homeland. [...] After the war, many children had been in stress and in depression, fear which will always accompany them, and some of these children had serious mental health issues. The story is the same for all. The world should never ignore any child from any country big or small.” Lusine, Armenia

Nane and Lusine, members of the Child Leadership Team that designed and led the *International Conference on Mental Health* held in February, shared their concerns and wishes with the conference participants.



Among the panellists, we also hosted Farida Amiri – a passionate peacebuilder from Afghanistan who shared her perspective on women’s rights in her country, and who is also a recipient of the Global Campus scholarship programme for Afghans – and Ghada Krayem, a young woman among Gaza’s first female renewable energy technicians. We further welcomed UN Special Rapporteur on Afghanistan Richard Bennett, who spoke alongside Eamon Gilmore, EU Special Representative for Human Rights; David McAllister, Chair of the EP’s Foreign Affairs Committee; Thérèse Murphy, EMA Chairperson; and Heidi Hautala, Vice-President of the EP in a high-level segment analysing the global state of human rights. The

impressive line-up of speakers further included President of the EP Roberta Metsola; Nobel Peace Prize, Sakharov and Right Livelihood Laureate Denis Mukwege; Cameroonian Right Livelihood Laureate Marthe Wandou; and Sanaa Seif, sister of the well-known Egyptian political activist Abd el-Fattah.

The conference, which reaffirms the strong and long-standing partnership between the EP and the Global Campus, was held with the support of Right Livelihood, our partner in children’s rights activities. Executive Director Ole von Uexküll strongly reminded us that the current broken system completely violates children’s rights to have a future and that children play a crucial role in dismantling this broken system.



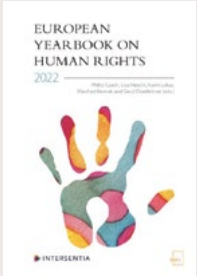
1. Vice-President of the EP Heidi Hautala concludes the high-level segment on the global state of the rights of children and youth.

2. Ghada Krayem shares her experience working in the field of renewable energy as a young woman in Gaza. The panel was moderated by Ravi Prakash, Kathmandu School of Law and GC Council Member.

**European Yearbook on Human Rights**

The *European Yearbook on Human Rights* brings together renowned scholars, emerging voices and practitioners, comprising contributions which engage with some of the most important human rights issues and developments in Europe. The Yearbook helps to better understand the rich

landscape of the European regional human rights system and is intended to stimulate discussions, critical thinking and further research in this field. The 2022 publication was edited by Philip Czech, Lisa Heschl, Karin Lukas, Manfred Nowak and Gerd Oberleitner.







## Denis Mukwege

2013 Right Livelihood, 2014 Sakharov Prize and 2018 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

Today militarism is challenged and tested by the temptation for the return to a perverse interpretation of the principles of sovereignty, which is far from sustaining the legitimate aspirations of peoples for the increase of their freedom. On the contrary, they are at the hands of an authoritarianism which is more and more assumed. This situation shows the necessity and need for a quality and security system in order to tackle the great challenges of humanity, including the universal protection of human rights.

At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we see a regression in terms of rights and fundamental freedoms, and we are shocked to observe often – and almost as if we are completely numbed – the worrying resurgence of nationalism and populism. Hate speech leads to racist and sexist aggressions. Extremist ideas and ideologies tend to become more and more common within society and the political discourse of our countries, even in the Western world, to the point where sometimes they are even adopted by democratic parties who go towards putting forward some policies that are killing

liberties in their very natures. It is within this context that human rights are challenged every day on all continents, especially in front of the greater indifference of the community of states.

Dr Denis Mukwege is a leading gynaecologist and global campaigner against sexual violence as a weapon of war. As founder and chief surgeon of the Panzi hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), he and his colleagues have treated

more than 50,000 survivors of sexual violence and helped them build a future. Despite constant death threats, Dr Mukwege continues to heal women and speak up against sexual violence as a weapon of war.



## Sima Samar

Afghan human rights defender and 2012 Right Livelihood Laureate

The right to education and the importance of education for a nation anywhere in the world is undeniable. Developed and strong nations are measured based on their education and level of knowledge. For a country like Afghanistan, experiencing war over last 40 years, education seems to be one of the most recommended

solutions to bring peace and solidarity to the country. Educating women and girls, alongside and equal to men and boys, with quality education helps them to know their own value, and their contribution and significant role within the society.

Dr Sima Samar is an Afghan women's and human rights activist. She has served as Minister of Women's Affairs, President of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and is a Right Livelihood Award Laureate.

Additionally, she is an appointed member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement in 2019. This is why we invited her to join the expert panel on internal displacement and conflict as part of the Global Classroom 2022.

# Human Rights Orchestra at the Teatro La Fenice



The concert of the Human Rights Orchestra that took place at the magnificent Teatro La Fenice on 15 July was an inspiring and uplifting addition to the Global State of Human Rights Conference. Conducted by Alessio Allegrini, former principal horn at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan and co-founder of the Human Rights Orchestra, the musicians performed a mix of classical pieces and contemporary music composed by guest soloists Mai Khôi, a former Vietnamese pop star and human rights activist forced into exile in the US, and Ziad Trabelsi, who built cultural ties between northern Africa and Europe through his music.

The powerful role of art as a tool of advocacy and human connection was strikingly reflected. Their music addresses the struggles of living in exile. The performance was

dedicated to the victims of COVID-19, the war in Ukraine, and victims of all wars. The concert concluded with remarks from Heidi Hautala, Vice-President of the European Parliament, who emphasised the inseparable link between art and the defence of human rights.





The concert was also the perfect opportunity to launch *The Routledge Companion to Music and Human Rights*, edited by Julian Fifer, Angela Impey, Peter G. Kirchschräger, Manfred Nowak and George Ulrich. A collection of chapters spanning a wide range of topics on music and human rights, the book brings forward the expertise of academic researchers, lawyers, human rights practitioners, and performing musicians who offer critical reflection on how their work might identify, inform, or advance mutual interests in their respective fields. It is comprised of 28 chapters, interspersed with 23 'voices' – portraits that focus on individuals' intimate experiences with music in the defence or advancement of human rights. The book explores four themes:

- 01 – Fundamentals on music and human rights;
- 02 – Music in pursuit of human rights;
- 03 – Music as a means of violating human rights;
- 04 – Human rights and music: intrinsic resonances.

The book was conceived in Venice in 2015, when the Global Campus hosted a workshop comprised of musicians from the Human Rights Orchestra, professors in the fields of international law and philosophy, and members of NGOs working to advance human rights.

“Tonight’s orchestral music was written well before the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948; nevertheless, these pieces resonate with human rights principles. In 1829, Felix Mendelssohn visited the coast of the Scottish Highlands, and was awestruck by the beauty of the Hebrides islands. That experience inspired him to write the opening theme to what has become one of his most endearing compositions, the Hebrides Overture. With the urgent problems of pollution of our waters and the air we breathe, and the growing clamour for the General Assembly to recognize the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, the Hebrides Overture symbolizes for us the attention and protection we must afford the natural world, which sustains life, supports well-being, and inspires artistic creativity.” Julian Fifer, Executive Director of Musicians for Human Rights



## Fighting mis- and disinformation



Angela Melchiorre  
and Weronika Grelow  
E-learning Manager  
and E-learning  
Executive Officer

Detecting and countering mis- and disinformation in the online space, including conspiracy theories, are increasingly crucial skills. While much research and training are already in place for journalists and adults, resources for young people in this area are still limited. Yet, in the current, very complex information environment – and precisely in the years of personal development and growth into adulthood – youth are the most in need of a foundation for online health and safety that would support their lifelong attentive and responsible contribution to society.

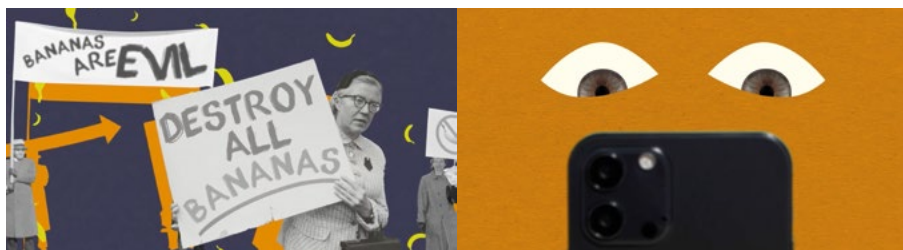
This is why we offered a practice-oriented online training – *YouLead* – targeting participants between 15 and 18 years of age from all around the world. The goal was to empower them as youth ambassadors within their own communities through a mix of synchronous and asynchronous activities (including readings, videos, podcasts and games). The live workshops involved experts from *I am here International* and *Tactical Tech*, who created interactive sessions introducing the basics of digital verification, fact-checking, and how to detect bias and stay safe from hate speech and defamation. A panel discussion with young climate activists debating *Youth Activism and Mis/Disinformation* concluded the series of synchronous events. The online training culminated in creating an advocacy video, by young people for young people, and a sticker campaign to be shared through social media.

<https://gchumanrights.org/youlead>

In coordination with the E-learning Department and with the support of Right Livelihood, the course was developed by Wiebke Lamer (Tomorrow University of Applied Sciences and former EMA Director) and two EMA alumnae, Laura Thomi and Meredith Veit. In 2021, the same team developed the very successful MOOC on *Children's Rights and Technology in the Digital Age*.

**“A few days ago I was talking with my friends, they were like forwarding a link that didn't seem credible, but they thought it was helpful. So I suggested to fact check the source cause many viral links are fake and that's how I told them about mis- and disinformation, satire and mal-information [...] and how it negatively affects people's lives. They were very shocked [...] and were grateful to have learned more.”** YouLead participant

The amount of enthusiasm and support we received from participants and workshop facilitators was not only motivating but also indicative of the actual need for capacity building among young people in the field of information literacy. The most impressive outcome, however, remains that young participants are still sharing their learning with their social circles for further reflection and discussion. A few are planning to organise similar courses – surely a ground-breaking achievement in our continuous efforts towards meaningful participation of children and young people in our activities.



The advocacy video, developed from script writing to voice-over recording by participants from Egypt, Fiji, Greece, India/Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Liberia, Philippines, Senegal, Tunisia and Turkey, is available in English, French, Arabic, Spanish, Greek, Hindi, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian and Filipino. We were incredibly impressed by their ability to take the concepts they have learned and visualise them in such a fun and creative way.

# The tricky task of promoting human rights education on social media



Gaia Balbo  
Web Marketing  
Officer

Even though 2022 will be remembered as a year of turmoil for big tech companies, as of today, social media platforms are still the most effective way to connect with a wide audience and spread your message worldwide. As a global institution aiming at raising awareness for human rights and building a vast community of human rights defenders, we constantly work on strengthening our digital presence, reaching new generations and inspiring them to shape a more sustainable and just society.

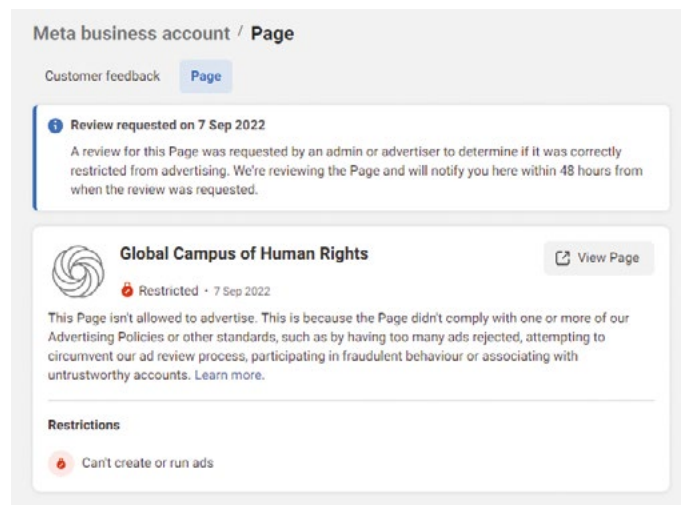
However, the use of social media to promote educational activities does not come without challenges when you are a human rights-focused organisation. At the beginning of this year, Meta, the multinational owning Facebook, Instagram and other services, updated its advertising policies with new restrictions affecting sponsored content about “social issues, elections or politics”. While these new regulations are presented as the best solution to guarantee transparency and accountability, ultimately, they only seem to negatively impact the advertising efforts of NGOs and cause-led institutions such as the Global Campus.

Over the last months, our Facebook and Instagram ads repeatedly failed the review system for violating the Meta advertising policy. The problem apparently lies in using “triggering” keywords falling under the abovementioned special categories. We, therefore, found ourselves in need of constantly looking for creative ways to get around the review, trying at the same time to give our activities the visibility they deserved. The challenge is massive: how do you effectively promote a Master's programme on human rights without using the words “human rights”? Or a training course on election observation, avoiding mentioning “elections”?

Meta advertising standards change rapidly, and they often leave grey areas that make it even more difficult to deliver a message that is simultaneously impactful, creative and compliant with the rules.

For the year to come, we strive to rethink our marketing strategies to stay up to date in a constantly evolving sector, expand our advertising efforts beyond social media platforms and look for innovative ways of spreading the word about our activities and growing our community.

The amount of rejected posts had an impact on our Facebook account as well, which was suspended and put under review for three months before it was unlocked.



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# Emergency support for Afghan human rights scholars and students: growing the programme in year two



Imke Steimann  
and Julia Runte  
Programme  
coordination

The Taliban takeover in Afghanistan resulted in one of the most severe and news breaking human rights crises of 2021 and is still leaving deep traces on Afghan society in 2022 and for years to come. Immediately responding to this crisis with what was within our means, we established an ad hoc scholarship programme for threatened Afghans working or studying in the field of human rights. Many starting in 2021 and others following throughout 2022, a total of 35 individuals found a new academic home within the Global Campus network at universities in Poland, Romania, Germany, Italy, Thailand, Spain, Finland and Slovenia. There, they have been able to continue their Bachelor's, Master's or PhD studies or received research and teaching opportunities under academic supervision and with monthly financial support. While we were constantly fighting our way through a labyrinth of visa procedures and other bureaucratic hurdles, seeing these scholars and students find safety, opportunities and hope at our member universities has been a rewarding new programme of the Global Campus.

Many of our recipients have successfully continued their impressive human rights work and advocacy for freedom and democracy in Afghanistan: Yasa Rahman at Ruhr-University Bochum presented and discussed his research on the closure of civil spaces in Afghanistan at the UN Human Rights Council's side session on Afghanistan in September 2022. Professor Zaker Ershad taught the first courses on Afghanistan and Sharia law at the University of Bucharest and was highly requested by both faculty and students to return. Coordinating with those in Afghanistan, a young female Afghan student (who remains anonymous for safety concerns) successfully advocated to free a family member working for the protection of human rights from arbitrary detention in Afghanistan.

In addition to the scholarships, we organised many activities for continued learning and the creation of a strong network of human rights experts either from or working on Afghanistan. For example, through our E-learning Department, we offered a new and tailored online certificate course as an "Introduction to Human Rights". Four modules and three live webinars allowed for active exchange between the course participants and high-level human rights experts, including former Minister for Women's Affairs and Right Livelihood Laureate Sima Samar.

On 11 March, we were honoured to welcome to our headquarters in Venice the (now former) President of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Shaharзад Akbar, and UN Special Rapporteur on Afghanistan, Richard Bennett. We organised a panel discussion together with Ca' Foscari University Venice and Padova University and Afghan human rights defenders living in Venice, as well as an online event for our global network. Further increasing our visibility, we were able to present our new scholarship programme on a variety of different occasions, such as at the European Parliament's Afghan Women Days and different academic conferences.

Finally, providing our scholarship recipients the opportunity to fully settle and integrate at their host universities and create the right conditions for continuing their professional trajectories in exile, we are continuing this programme until summer 2024. In addition, we are acknowledging that human rights experts and defenders are at risk not only in Afghanistan but in many other countries around the globe, not least under the repressive regimes in Iran or Russia. Therefore, we have started a new journey towards reconceptualising exile for human rights experts and defenders, through practical support for selected human rights defenders to continue their work abroad, building transnational support structures and engaging in research on this increasingly important topic.



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1. In March 2022, we hosted a celebration for Nowruz (Persian New Year) at our headquarters in Venice. Joined by over a hundred Afghans from across Italy, the event was an important moment for creating a sense of connectedness and community among displaced Afghans. It was accompanied by wonderful Afghan food, live music, as well as a large tapestry created by Sebastiano Furlotti: *A Guernica for Afghanistan*. The then 17-year-old Italian artist set himself to “create an artwork that could bring the public closer to the suffering and vicissitudes of the Afghan people”.

2. GC Europe students organised a vigil and social media campaign at the GC HQ following attacks on the Kaj Education Centre in Kabul on 30 September 2022, where 52 young female students were killed during practice exams for university admission.

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## Empowering visual media professionals



Alberta Rocca, Elena Battaglia and Sara Brogliato Trainings and Projects Department

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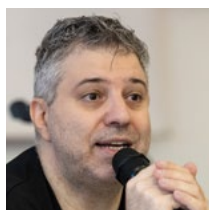
The *Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy* is a training initiative jointly developed by the Global Campus and Picture People. The 10-day programme provides a safe, culturally rich and collaborative environment where diversity and inclusivity are embraced, original and critical thinking are encouraged, skills are honed, creativity is unleashed and networking with experts from the human rights arena and professionals from the film industry at the Venice International Film Festival is supported. The aim of the course is to equip participants with a better understanding of the intersection between digital media, film, human rights and video advocacy and to provide skills and best practices on how to use visual media as a tool for social change in the fields of human rights, research and advocacy.

The programme focuses on the rights of children and young people in the broader framework of human rights protection and promotion. It is structured in learning activities such as lectures, practical workshops, working groups, tutorials and film screenings and discussions.

In the past editions, our participants have met several filmmakers, such as Alex Gibney, Askold Kurov, Mike Leigh, Francesca Mannocchi and 2018 Sakharov Laureate Oleh Sentsov.

For the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the School (29 August - 7 September 2022) and through the support of the newly established partnership with Kinéo Prize, we welcomed Evgeny Afineevsky, filmmaker of *Winter on Fire* and *Freedom on Fire: Ukraine's Fight for Freedom*. The first documentary follows the 2013–2014 Maidan uprising in Kyiv, while the second addresses the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine. Both documentaries premiered at the Venice International Film Festival in 2015 and 2022, respectively.

Afineevsky shared his view on the role that a film can have as a tool for social change with our students. By transporting the audience into the trenches, bringing the voices of the voiceless and exposing the viewer to the emotions lived by protagonists and survivors from the war zones, the director manages to create the urge for a worldwide call for action in the audience, so that the movie becomes a tool for activism and advocacy. Despite the terrible times in which we live and all the atrocities narrated in his works from Ukraine to Syria, Afineevsky remains hopeful and positive. He believes that the fight for humanity encompasses our own sense of empathy and caring for each other which can lead to a better future for our world and future generations.

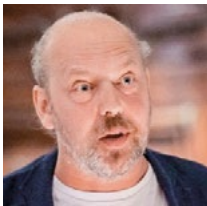


**I think we really need to educate the world: I am really happy to be here today where you guys are educating future human rights defenders about what is activism; how to bring this hope and this change to the world.**

Evgeny Afineevsky



Participants of the Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy in the Monastery of San Nicolò, Venice, August 2022.



## Vladimir Slivyak

Environmental activist and 2021 Right Livelihood Laureate

We are living in a very difficult time, it is a full-scale war going on in Europe, and it has already approached the border of the European Union. That is a major human rights disaster, and part of the reason this is happening is that the world did not pay enough attention to human rights. Another reason is that other countries did not pay enough attention to the bad human rights situation in Russia. And this is where we are today: we are at war, and we need to stop this war as soon as possible, and that is why your job is extremely important today. It is only by respecting human rights and democratisation that we can stop future wars and we can make Russia a democratic country.

I think human rights are the most important aspect of us as people, also for environmental protection, and environmental rights of people are part of the human rights agenda. It is very simple, to effectively protect the environment, you need an effort by activists and civil society. But, activists can exist only in a democratic society. Authoritarian and dictatorship states want to use nature, or the natural environment if you like, simply as a resource – and that kills nature. When environmental activists protest, dictators just put them in jail. In order to protect the environment, which is essential for human survival, you need democracy and the respect for human rights. So both things – human rights and environmental protection – are very well interconnected.

Dear Global Campus of Human Rights, you do extremely important work for today's society internationally. You are creating the foundation for the world's democracy. You are creating a foundation for human survival. That's equal. No job is more important than yours. Please, continue and do it the best way you can. I count on you, the whole world is counting on you.

Vladimir Slivyak, co-founder of Ecodefense, one of the oldest environmental groups in Russia, and Right Livelihood Laureate of 2021 explained his campaigns to stop

various nuclear and fossil fuel projects in an increasingly authoritarian environment in the Russian Federation in his keynote speech at the EMA Graduation Ceremony.

# A sample of events and programmes organised by the Global Campus and in collaboration with our partners

<b>JANUARY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>International Conference on Mental Health: Children's Perspectives on the Challenges and Ways Forward</i>, online</li> </ul>	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOOC <i>Socio-Economic Justice through Human Rights</i>, online</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short course <i>Sexual minority rights in Africa</i>, hybrid, Pretoria (GC Africa)</li> </ul>
<b>MARCH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>5th Global Campus of Human Rights Conversation</i>, online</li> <li>• <i>High-level Lecture on Human Rights in Afghanistan</i>, Venice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book launch <i>Challenges of Political Stability in the EEU Countries. The index of political factors</i>, Yerevan (GC Caucasus)</li> </ul>
<b>APRIL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cosmocafé</i>, in partnership with Koen Vanmechelen and MOUTH Foundation, Venice</li> </ul>	
<b>MAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open lecture by Prof Wolfgang Benedek at UNSA on <i>Violations of international humanitarian law and of human rights in Ukraine</i>, Sarajevo (GC South East Europe)</li> <li>• <i>Global Classroom on Internal Displacement</i>, Pretoria</li> <li>• Training programme on electoral technical assistance, Venice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Climate Justice Workshop</i>, by Albert Einstein Institute, Venice</li> <li>• Presentation of the collection of distinguished Master's theses, Buenos Aires (GC Latin America - Caribbean)</li> <li>• Career days in partnership with the ERMA Alumni Network, Sarajevo (GC South East Europe)</li> </ul>
<b>JUNE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roundtable <i>The Missing and Forcibly Disappeared in Lebanon</i>, Beirut (GC Arab World)</li> <li>• <i>Venice School for Human Rights Defenders</i>, Venice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seminar <i>Democracy at Stake: Cases of Thailand and Indonesia</i>, online (GC Asia-Pacific)</li> <li>• <i>International Children's Rights Research Ethics Forum 2022</i>, Bangkok (GC Asia-Pacific)</li> </ul>



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**JULY**

- *2nd High-Level Conference on the Global State of Human Rights* and concert of the Human Rights Orchestra at Teatro La Fenice, Venice
- *International Summer School on Human Rights and Human Security*, in partnership with OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Issyk-Kul (Kyrgyzstan)
- *Summer School on Conflict, Memory and Cinema*, Beirut (GC Arab World)
- Roundtable discussion *The Impact of Russia's war in Ukraine on the South Caucasus*, Yerevan (GC Caucasus)
- Presentation of *Protocolo de la Esperanza* (the first international tool to respond to threats against human rights defenders), Buenos Aires (GC Latin America - Caribbean)

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**AUGUST**

- *Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy*, Venice

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**SEPTEMBER**

- Celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation and graduation ceremony, Venice
- Career days in partnership with EMA Alumni Association (GC Europe)

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**OCTOBER**

- Completion of the new course *Introduction to Human Rights in Southeast Asia* at the Human Rights Centre of the National University of Timor Leste
- Roundtable *Music and Human Rights*, by University of Parma and Musicians for Human Rights, Parma (Italy)
- MOOC *Science and Human Rights*, online

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**NOVEMBER**

- *Global Forum on Justice for Children and Deprivation of Liberty*, Nouakchott (Mauritania)
- Right Livelihood Award Presentation, Stockholm
- 10<sup>th</sup> annual *Disability Rights in Africa Conference*, Pretoria (GC Africa)
- *Workshop on the European Convention on Human Rights*, by the Bar Association of Foggia, Foggia (Italy)

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**DECEMBER**

- Conference *Giornata internazionale dei Diritti Umani 2022: La cura dei diritti umani, oggi e domani*, organised by GC member University of Padua, Padua
- Human Rights Week, Dili (Timor Leste)





## Global Campus Visual Contest 2021/2022

*The Dance*, by Australian photographer Kathryn MacPhee, is the winner of Global Campus Visual Contest 2021/2022 whose theme was *Business activity and impact on human rights: challenges and hopes for a better future*. The contest, organised within the Global Campus

Alumni programmes, seeks to promote reflection on the multiple effects of business activity on the protection of human rights and to create hope for a future of trust and collaboration on human rights and sustainable environment.

“According to Azizul Shonchay, *The Business Standard*, 25 February 2020, rice mills have mushroomed to capitalise on the vast rice supply. Initially, workers take a loan from the mill owner. However, they must keep taking loans and face a never-ending cycle of debt. In some mills, workers acquainted with the mill’s recruiter are allowed to visit their homes but must leave their spouses at the factory as an assurance. Recently, the plight of some bonded labourers has improved because their wages have increased. Some are allowed to work outside the mills to make enough money to live.” Kathryn MacPhee

“Teachers, you have a huge responsibility of preparing our future leaders for the struggles of the world; the burden of our war-torn societies is on you. Continue to learn about people’s battles and don’t be afraid to address the difficult conversations and questions about how to improve our societies.”

**Jamila Afghani, Aurora Prize\* 2022 Laureate**

\* The Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity is a global award that recognises those who risk their lives, health or freedom to save the lives, health or freedom of others. It is awarded on behalf of the survivors of the Armenian genocide.

# The Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa

HRDA



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## People

**Frans Viljoen**  
**Ashwane Budoo-Scholtz**  
**Magnus Killander**  
**Johannes Buabeng-Baidoo**  
**Emily Laubscher**  
**Elvis Fokala**  
**Davina Murden**

University of Pretoria

## Regional Network

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**University of Pretoria,**  
South Africa — *coordinator*

**Université d'Abomey-Calavi,**  
Benin

**Université Catholique  
d'Afrique Centrale,** Cameroon

**Addis Ababa University,** Ethiopia

**University of Ghana,** Ghana

**University of Nairobi,** Kenya

**University of Mauritius,**  
Mauritius

**Universidade Eduardo Mondlane,**  
Mozambique

**University of Lagos,** Nigeria

**Université Gaston Berger  
de Saint Louis,** Senegal

**University of Venda,** South Africa

**University of Western Cape,**  
South Africa

**Makerere University,** Uganda

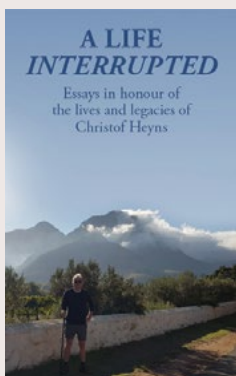
Launched in 2000, the Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa (HRDA) continues to be the most sought-after postgraduate human rights programme on the continent. Run by the Centre for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria, an internationally-recognised institution combining academic excellence and effective activism to advance human rights, HRDA has conferred degrees to over 600 alumni who are currently active in the full spectrum of human rights work: from grassroots, through civil service, to international organisations including the African Union and the United Nations.

The programme emphasises the protection of persons forming part of vulnerable groups such as women, children, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and sexual minorities. The students are offered the opportunity to attend intensive one-week courses on such topics taught by experts in the respective fields and that include practical elements such as moot courts and mock state reporting exercises. HRDA lecturers are advised to mainstream gender issues in their teaching; for instance, during classes on budgeting, emphasis is put on how budgeting affects women's rights.

In May 2022, the Women's Rights Clinic of the Centre for Human Rights hosted a webinar on the implementation of the Gender Action Plan (2017) to support gender-responsive climate action in Africa. The aim of the webinar was to highlight the gendered consequences of climate disasters that impact women in Africa and create awareness of the need for the implementation of the Gender Action Plan. The event highlighted the role of civil society organisations and individuals, and the work of African activists advocating for and implementing gender-just climate solutions on the continent was spotlighted in the discussion.



### A Life Interrupted: Essays in honour of the lives and legacies of Christof Heyns



In January 2022, the Centre for Human Rights published *A Life Interrupted: Essays in honour of the lives and legacies of Christof Heyns*, edited by Frans Viljoen, Charles Fombad, Dire Tladi, Ann Skelton and Magnus Killander. A book chapter authored by Ademola Oluborode Jegede, Annette Lansink and Kwadwo Appiagyei-Atua (GC Africa faculty) reflects on Christof's thinking

that "tertiary education should be transformational and not merely for a small elitist clique or group" and remembers his pioneering work to create an international partnership on human rights, "the main anchor on which continues to rest the current direction of human rights education in tertiary institutions in Africa".



## Disinformation and freedom of expression

Addressing mis- and disinformation is a global concern, and the Global Campus has been active in this regard. However, whilst disinformation can pose threats, poorly designed legislative or policy responses to disinformation can, themselves, pose serious risks to human rights – particularly the right to freedom of expression. In May 2022, the Centre for Human Rights and other partner organisations launched *LEXOTA—Laws on Expression Online: Tracker and Analysis*, a new interactive open tool to help human rights defenders track and analyse government responses to online disinformation across Sub-Saharan Africa. The tool is powered by multilingual data and context-sensitive insights from civil society organisations and uses a detailed framework to assess whether government responses to disinformation are respecting human rights. In recent years, governments in Sub-Saharan Africa have increasingly responded to disinformation through content-based restrictions and regulations, which often pose significant risks to individuals' right to freedom of expression. *LEXOTA* was developed to support those working to defend internet freedom and freedom of expression across the region, by making data on these government actions accessible and comparable.

In addition, the Expression, Information and Digital Rights Unit of the Centre for Human Rights in collaboration with the Media Institute of Southern Africa Zimbabwe conducted a workshop on promoting rights-respecting approaches to disinformation for community-based organisations (CBOs) on 17 November in Harare, Zimbabwe. Among the key takeaways of the workshop was understanding the role of CBOs in contributing to a healthy information ecosystem through proactively promoting access to accurate and credible information, and challenging misinformation and disinformation. Through the knowledge and skills gained from the workshop, participants will be better placed to verify and fact check information.

## Child participation in development frameworks in Africa

Child participation is not a common theme in African development discourse: a newly published study reports on the challenges faced by states parties to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Children's Charter in meaningfully involving children in the implementation of development frameworks. Cultural attitudes towards children's agency in decision-making, a lack of systematisation of child participation as an obligatory state-funded democratic process, a lack of adequate platforms for participation, and budgetary constraints are among the key barriers. These impediments should be overcome, and children should be put at the forefront of the agenda, ensuring that they meaningfully exercise their right to express themselves, to participate, and to be heard, as outlined in the African Children's Charter and Agenda 2040 for Children.



**“HRDA provided me with an opportunity to learn about human rights from the African perspective. It has truly broadened my understanding of international human rights law. It also allowed me to develop a keen interest in fighting for children’s rights.”**

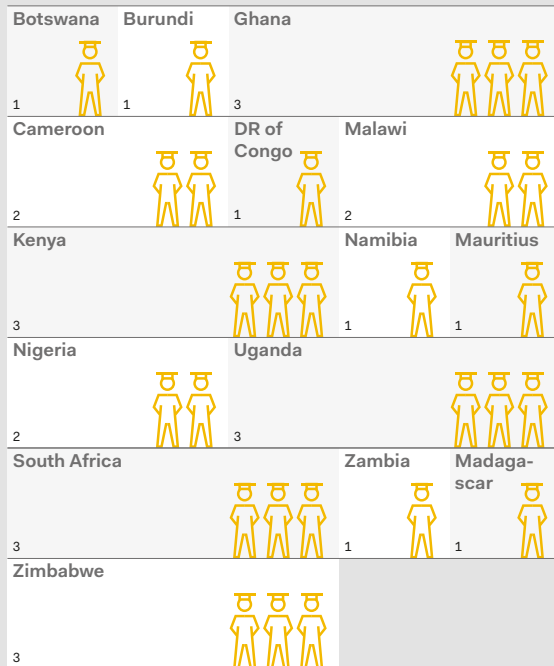
GC Africa student

The Study also spotlights children's agency and capacity to respond to the challenges that society collectively faces, and to input into development initiatives aimed at securing their well-being.

The Study was prepared with the support of Right Livelihood. This is one among the many publications of the Centre for Human at the University of Pretoria. Their impressive [Annual Report](#) and [webpage](#) feature the academic outputs of its different units.



## Countries of origin of graduates



## GC Africa in numbers



Member universities



Graduates

83% satisfaction rate



Publications



Training programmes



Internship organisations

The academic programmes of the University of Pretoria run by the calendar year, i.e. they start in January and end in December, while most GC Master's programmes begin in September/October. The graduation ceremony of the GC Africa Programme always coincides with World Human Rights Day, 10 December. At the 2022 ceremony, graduates were challenged to position themselves strategically on the continent as policymakers and human rights activists and were reminded not to be intimidated by their youthful age. On the contrary, considering African demographics, their age makes them relatable to the various constituents their human rights and democratisation expertise targets.



# The Arab Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights

ARMA



Global Campus  
Arab World

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## People

Karim Bitar  
Jihad Nammour  
Mayada Abdallah  
Rania Salem  
Louise Lagarde  
Zahraa Gharib  
Hala Kinawi  
Hazem Mizyed

Saint Joseph University  
of Beirut

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## Regional Network

Saint Joseph University  
of Beirut, Lebanon — *coordinator*

University of Carthage, Tunisia

International University of Rabat,  
Morocco

Birzeit University, Palestine

University of Southern Denmark,  
Denmark

Danish Institute for Human Rights,  
Denmark

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With the participation of academics from:

Cairo University, Egypt

University of Jordan, Jordan

Regional advancement of human rights and democratic governance calls for a deep understanding of the region's politics. This is why one of the four streams of the Arab Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights offers foundational courses in political science (political theory, political

increasing its outreach efforts and reacting swiftly to human rights developments. It offers two different tracks to a growing number of students from the region and beyond, and engages with civil society and the public at large through its seminars, roundtables, workshops and trainings.

**“The ArMA programme is very challenging on an academic level – because of the many seminars that provide a wide scope of human rights issues and approaches”. “I’m a proud ArMA graduate, ready to bring new perspectives about the MENA region to my European network and provoke more understanding for people living ‘far away’ facing poverty and other human rights challenges.”**

GC Arab World student

sociology and geopolitics) with a focus on the region. The stream looks into international and social dynamics – including theories of social change and political transitions – through both a comparative approach and one focusing on the Arab World, and more broadly, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). This focus offers a powerful learning experience as the complexity of the Arab World is taught by a diverse faculty affiliated with multiple universities across the Mediterranean. The unique regional identity of the Global Campus Arab World contributes to positioning the programme as a point of reference in MENA and increasing the visibility and recognition even beyond the region.

Despite the ongoing local, national and regional crises, Global Campus Arab World keeps on innovating, forging partnerships,

### Field research

The research organised for the Global Campus Arab World students changes from year to year: students get to apply the research methods they learned in class and analyse the data they gathered on a particular human rights project. The 2021/2022 cohort worked on two topics: political participation in the wake of the Lebanese parliamentary elections and knowledge and perception on the new social safety net.

### Human rights projects

During the summer period, students took two seminars on project management and human rights project development. They built and implemented several human rights projects related to refugee, children's and women's rights.

### Field visits

Students visited a centre for women's empowerment in the town of Chtoura and a cultural community centre targeting distressed and displaced communities in the town of Ghazze, in eastern Lebanon.

## New educational simulation combining a moot court and role play

With the support of OHCHR and two of its lecturers, Dr Carmen Abou Jaoude (Saint Joseph University, Lebanon) and Ahmed Khalifa (Ain Shams University, Egypt), the programme created a new simulation game on the topic of the missing and forcibly disappeared. It brought together 28 students from different universities in the region and was

an opportunity to reach out to new universities not part of the Global Campus network, such as the Beirut Arab University, Islamic University of Lebanon and German University in Cairo. The game combined elements of a moot court (typical of law schools) and role play (popular in political sciences). The topic was chosen because it is the only crime that

cannot be covered by an amnesty law and is very relevant in the Arab region. The programme, divided into two phases, involved six teams that competed for two days in the Monnot Theatre in Beirut and over 10 judges and commissioners from Lebanon and Egypt who ranked them.

## Seminars, roundtables and training programmes

Global Campus Arab World organised many outreach activities to engage with Lebanese students beyond the regional network, civil society, public sector and the public at large. As an example, a hybrid seminar to address growing scepticism towards human rights was organised in March 2022, with discussants Professor Mudar Kassis, Birzeit University and Professor George Ulrich, Global Campus

Headquarters. In March and April 2022, an online course on data governance and protection and a two-day training course on data privacy and protection were developed in partnership with Siren, a Lebanese consulting firm, and the Tunisian National Authority for the Protection of Personal Data. The training was delivered by the head of the Tunisian National Authority, Dr Chawki Gaddes, to 28 civil servants from the Lebanese Central Inspection Authority.



The first summer school on *Conflict, Memory and Cinema* took place in July 2022 and was open to students from universities of the regional network and to non-students from Lebanon.



In October 2021, GC Arab World organised a hybrid dialogue to discuss Adib Nehmeh's book *Development and Poverty: A Critical Review of Concepts and Measurement Tools*, which criticises the western/"rich country" approach to development.

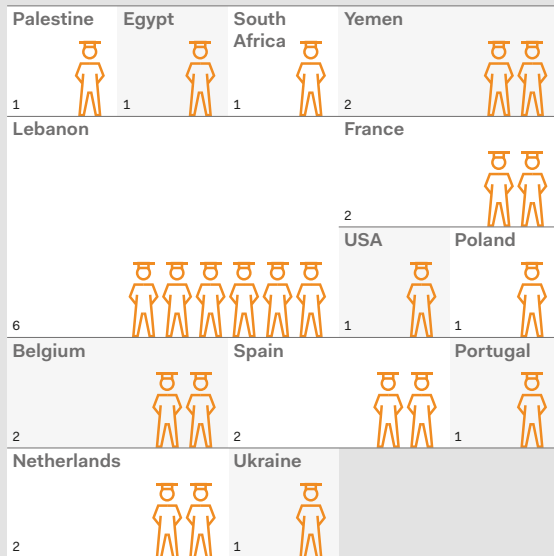


1. At the beginning of the academic year (September 2022) students participated in a hiking trip in the Qadisha valley, a UNESCO world heritage site.

2. A group of graduates of the 2021/2022 cohort, July 2022.

3. Children's Rights Officer Hala Kinawi and lecturer Rita Chemaly during a course on gender equality and social inclusion, Saint Joseph University, February 2022.

## Countries of origin of graduates



## GC Arab World in numbers



Member universities



Graduates\*  
90% satisfaction rate



Internship organisations



Outreach events



Training programmes

\* of which 9 defended their thesis but will graduate in 2023

## Student projects

*Skills for Human Rights* is the fourth stream of the Master's programme and aims at developing specific professional and research skills which are very valuable in a region with scarce data on human rights and where communication and project management skills are in high demand in the NGO

scene. In July 2022, students designed and implemented three humanitarian projects on the topics of period pads and women's rights, stories from an UNRWA refugee camp located in the southern suburb of Beirut, and early marriage (see poster in the photo).





# The Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation (Asia-Pacific)

APMA



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## People

**Michael Hayes**  
**Bencharat Sae Chua**  
**Jariya Jarurak**  
**Arinkorn Kittisirachad**  
**Mark Anthony V. Ambay II**

Mahidol University

## Regional Network

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**Mahidol University,**  
Thailand — *coordinator*

**Universitas Gadjah Mada,**  
Indonesia

**Kathmandu School of Law,**  
Nepal

**Ateneo de Manila University,**  
the Philippines

**University of Colombo,** Sri Lanka

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Associate Member:

**Universidade Nacional Timor  
Lorosa'e,** Timor Leste

In the academic year 2021/2022, the Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation (Asia-Pacific), unfortunately, had to be conducted mostly online once again. When COVID-19 restrictions were eased, students were encouraged to travel to the Salaya Campus of Mahidol University and complete their thesis work: all but three students joined in person. Despite the barriers online learning creates, especially for students from economically poor areas, the programme managed to attract a very diverse cohort of 29 students including 10 from marginalised groups (indigenous/ethnic minority, LGBTIQ, religious and at-risk human rights defenders).

### Mainstreaming cross-cutting issues in the curricula

Gender/sexuality, human rights during public emergencies and children's rights are mainstreamed across the programme's courses. These topics are of great interest to students and are highly relevant in the context of the coup in neighbouring Myanmar. For gender and sexuality, students learn the standards in the *Human Rights Norms* class. They explore the politics of feminism in the *Theory* class and in *Research Methods*, they apply ideas of intersectionality to their research. Addressing rights around emergencies was also tackled in the *Norms*

class, where students developed advocacy skills as they were involved in a campaign to support students from Myanmar, specifically against the execution of students who came out to demand democracy.

### Capacity building

Once a year, the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies conducts an Annual Lecturer Workshop on *Teaching Human Rights & Peace: Developing Skills and Knowledge on Peace and Transformative Peacebuilding*, in partnership with the [ASEAN University Network-Human Rights Education](#) and other academic institutions. The workshop, offered in the framework of the [SHAPE-SEA Programme](#) (Strengthening Human Rights and Peace Research and Education in ASEAN/Southeast Asia), focuses on peacebuilding and conflict studies, including conflict transformation, justice and peace processes. The objectives of this very successful initiative are to build and strengthen knowledge on theories and concepts of peace, conflict and violence; establish links between human rights and peace; develop skills for teaching peace in the university and methods of assessment and evaluation of students; and introduce lecturers to textbooks and other resources for teaching peace and/or human rights.

Mahidol University students, led by students from the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, campaigned against the execution of students from Myanmar. Myanmar students comprised the largest group in the 2021/2022 cohort.

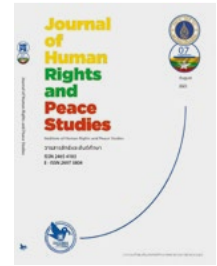


## Research activities and ongoing commitment to scholars from Myanmar

Global Campus Asia-Pacific has an impressive record of publications as research remains a core component of the Master's programme: four online workshops and over 50 research outputs were delivered by faculty from all five member universities of the regional network. In addition, some students published papers in the proceedings of two international conferences: one was the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on International Relations and Development (ICIRD) on the theme *Disruption, Challenges and Resilience in Contemporary Southeast Asia*, held virtually and onsite in July 2022. ICIRD is a platform for academic cooperation among five of Thailand's foremost providers of research and higher education, among which is the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University.

Moreover, Myanmar researchers had the opportunity to enrol in three research training workshops held in the winter of 2021. These are part of a larger programme

aimed at ensuring the continuity of human rights and justice research in Myanmar with support from the Government of Denmark. Eight journal articles were co-authored with Myanmar academics for Volume 7 (2021) of the *Journal of Human Rights and Peace Studies* (Supplemental Issue on Myanmar). This special edition "brings both the insightful experiences of Myanmar academics related to the integration of human rights education into the primary school levels and the reform process of access to justice in Myanmar during the democratic transition before 2021 February. [...] The research articles show the tensions between traditional values and the human rights concept and between transparency, accountability, the rule of law of democratic cultures, and deep-rooted bureaucratic cultures both in education and judiciary." (May Thida Aung, Issue Editor). As of July 2022, all issues of the *Journal of Human Rights and Peace Studies*, edited by Mahidol University, are available on Google Scholar: <https://bit.ly/APMA-scholar>.



Volume 7 (2021): *Journal of Human Rights and Peace Studies* (Supplemental Issue on Myanmar). In one of the articles, researchers show that access to justice is dependent largely on the social, educational and commercial status of informants and victims. The victims are denied access to justice in particular cases, such as rape, theft, and criminal trespass on land by not registering the First Information Report to responsible officers at the police station.

**“The APMA program really opened my eyes and guided me toward my genuine aspiration for human rights and peace. Without this program, I wouldn’t be like today. I can provide human rights education to many youths in Myanmar through various platforms. Currently, I am working as an independent researcher and MEAL specialist in the field of humanitarian, human rights, and community development.”** GC Asia-Pacific student

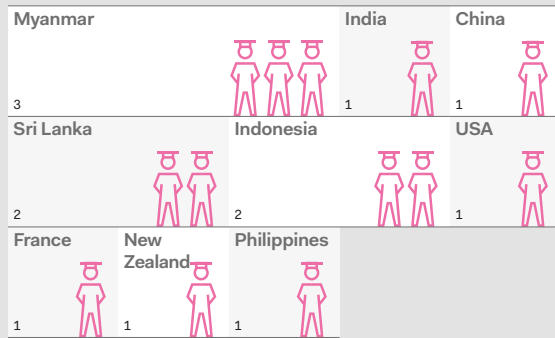


APMA faculty Professor Ryan Jeremiah D. Quan, Ateneo de Manila University, co-authored the chapter 'The Best Interests of the Child and Parental Authority in Philippine Family Law', in J. M. de Torres Perea, E. Krunk & M. Ortiz-Tallo (eds.), *The Routledge International Handbook of Shared Parenting and the Best Interest of the Child*.



The Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University, is a point of reference for the region, welcoming visits from universities outside GC Asia-Pacific. Faculty and students from Can Tho University and Ho Chi Minh City University of Law (Vietnam) were welcomed in 2021 and 2022 respectively, and exchanged knowledge and experience on teaching human rights and peace studies.

## Countries of origin of graduates



## GC Asia-Pacific in numbers

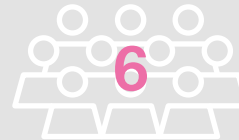


Member universities



Graduates

89% satisfaction rate



Workshops



Outreach activities



Publications

On 30 November 2022, GC Asia-Pacific students organised the Human Rights Festival at the Mahidol Learning Centre. The festival included small campaigns on the following human rights topics: *Good Neighbours* (to support refugees on the Thailand – Myanmar border); *My data, My choice*; *Children of no State*; and *Violence against Women*.





# Latest from Timor-Leste and the capacity development programme



Adriano Remiddi  
Head of Capacity  
Development Unit

We closed a year of challenges, commitment and achievements with the “Dili Human Rights Education Week”, an umbrella event organised with the EU Delegation to celebrate the results of the Human Rights Centre project (2019-2022) at the Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e (UNTL). Over 300 participants joined various academic and outreach activities coordinated under the patronage of the President of the Republic and Peace Nobel Laureate José Ramos Horta and in connection with the celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Timorese independence.

The handover of the Human Rights Centre to UNTL was the highlight of the week, and it was an integral part of the state ceremony for the awarding of the prestigious Sergio Vieira de Mello Human Rights Prize, which has been conferred by the President of the Republic since 2009. The event was a well-deserved

celebration for the tireless efforts throughout the implementation of the project and the recognition of a success story: a young, vibrant academic institution that commits to contributing to a more just and equitable Timor-Leste for the generations to come.

With the closing of the project, a new chapter opens up for the UNTL Human Rights Centre, now formally an associate of Global Campus Asia-Pacific: the Centre will not only continue its core activities, but it will also embrace new ones, create opportunities and develop joint projects with the Global Campus network. Concurrently, the Global Campus will build on this successful model and keep supporting the development of human rights education in universities in countries under pressure, starting with Moldova State University in Chisinau in 2023.



GC HQ staff with Timor-Leste President José Ramos Horta and recently appointed Director of the Human Rights Centre Loro Horta, December 2022.



1



2



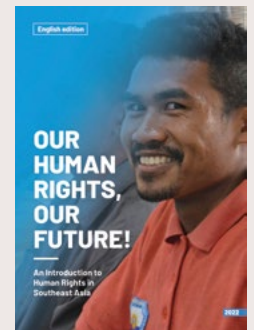
1. UNTL Rector João Soares Martins, GC Secretary General Manfred Nowak and GC Asia-Pacific Director Mike Hayes at the handover of the keys of the Human Rights Centre, 12 December 2022.

2. The team of the UNTL Human Rights Centre meet the newly appointed Director Professor Loro Horta during a last debriefing before the project handover.

### Trilingual Textbook *Our Human Rights, Our Future!*

Specifically developed to support teachers and students of UNTL, as well as other efforts to promote higher education in human rights in Timor-Leste and beyond, *Our Human Rights, Our Future! An Introduction to Human Rights in Southeast Asia* was published in English, Tetum and Portuguese. The first initiative of this kind in Timor-Leste, the textbook is comprised of ten chapters which lay out the fundamental notions and standards of human rights, followed

by a thematic selection of subjects related to the most pressing issues nationally. It was abridged and then adapted to UNTL needs, as well as tested with students. *Our Human Rights, Our Future* is the first textbook ever produced and published by the Global Campus and was developed in partnership with UNTL Human Rights Centre staff and trainees, Global Campus Asia-Pacific, and Timorese experts and stakeholders including civil society organisations.



#### Key figures

**5** staff persons

**45** trainees

**1130** students educated

**63** outreach events

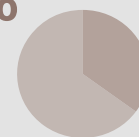
**2000+** participants at events

**800+** visits to the library

#### Overall gender balance

**65%**  
Female

**35%**  
Male



# The Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in the Caucasus

CES



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## People

**Artur Ghazinyan**  
**Vladimir Martirosyan**  
**Kristine Gevorgyan**  
**Lilit Mirzoyan**  
**Arusyak Aleksanyan**  
**Lilit Karapetyan**  
**Mariam Muradyan**

Yerevan State  
University

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## Regional Network

**Yerevan State University,**  
Armenia — *coordinator*

**Belarusian State University,**  
Belarus

**Ivane Javakhishvili**  
**Tbilisi State University,**  
Georgia

**Taras Shevchenko**  
**National University of Kyiv,**  
Ukraine

**American University**  
**in Central Asia,**  
Kyrgyzstan

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Unsurprisingly, in 2022 Global Campus Caucasus was especially impacted by the war in Ukraine, on top of other factors jeopardising the execution of the programme, such as COVID-related travel restrictions, a disadvantageous exchange rate, the conflict situation in Armenia and general geopolitical developments threatening Belarus State University (officially a regional member but de facto unable to join any activity). However, our Caucasus regional hub also scored some significant results, including the addition of a new member, the American University in Central Asia (AUCA) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Here, Global Campus Caucasus worked closely with AUCA on the development of the new interdisciplinary module that includes six courses: human rights in a changing world; business and human rights; technology, justice and human rights; human rights in the Armenian conflicts; and combating violence against women. The new member university will host students in the second semester of 2023. A second achievement is the involvement in the three-year Horizon Europe project *REconfiguring EU DEMOcracy Support? Towards a sustained demos in the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood (REDEMOS)*, which will start in January 2023. This project follows the previous research conducted by the Centre for European Studies at Yerevan State University on democracy, human rights, political stability and the democracy index.

## Children's rights and performing arts

Global Campus Caucasus has started a cooperation with the Henrik Igityan National Centre for Aesthetics (Yerevan) within the framework of *My convention*, a programme and performance funded by the Swedish Institute, implemented by ShareMusic & Performing Arts and developed through workshops and interviews with children and young people in Sweden and Armenia. "Almost wordless, with no other language than artistic expression, [*My convention*] explore[s] children's rights on their own terms. The aim is to strengthen children's knowledge of their rights and give them a springboard to find out more so they can make their voices heard." On 11 November 2022, Mariam Muradyan, Global Campus Children's Rights Officer for the Caucasus hub, joined an artistic talk on using performing arts to shed light on children's rights. The talk presented some methods and successful examples of combining performing arts and human rights and raised the issue of limited accessibility in both fields – performing arts and human rights for children with disabilities.

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From the opening performance of the play *My convention* at Mosaikteatern in Stockholm. Photo: Håkan Larsson.



## Ongoing comparative research on political stability

In the academic year 2021/2022, new interdisciplinary research on the stability issues of seven regional countries (Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Iran, Russia and Ukraine) was conducted. This research was the basis for developing the *Stability Index of Political Systems*, which is estimated by three dimensions: political, economic and social. Two types of analyses were implemented: in-country and cross-country. Within the research, around 4,000 items of data were gathered and elaborated. The database includes data on war, civil disobedience, investments, political rights and civil liberties, economic freedom, GDP, poverty level, crime rate, external trade, budget deficit and shadow economies, in each of the above-mentioned countries from 2000 to 2021. The study will be available in early 2023.

## Transitioning towards a multiple degree programme

On 12 December 2022, Global Campus Caucasus organised the kick-off of the Erasmus Mundus Design Measures (EMDM) project on *Developing Joint Master's programme in European Studies: law, governance and communication (DEGES)*, for which it is the coordinator. Introduced in 2021, EMDM supports the design of high-level and integrated postgraduate programmes

and encourages the development of new, innovative and highly integrated Master's programmes by facilitating the set-up of such international partnerships. The DEGES project will last 15 months and involve partner universities from Georgia (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University), Latvia (Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences), Lithuania (Vilnius University) and other EU member countries. They will work together on the design of a fully integrated curriculum; a joint assessment, quality assurance and admission strategy and policy; and recognition of credit and qualification.

## Training civil servants and penitentiary officials in Armenia

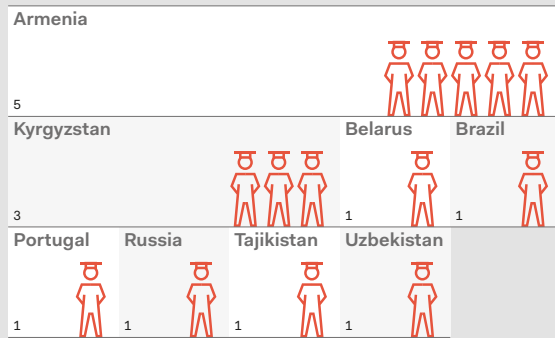
Global Campus Caucasus continued its focus on professional development for civil servants and prison staff in collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia. Four short courses were organised and delivered to a total of 115 participants on governance in an emergency situation; public relations/communication as a cornerstone of public service (based on the principles of transparency, right to information, right to object and accountability); prevention of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment in prisons; and juveniles in detention.

## Roundtable on *The Impact of Russia's War in Ukraine on South Caucasus*

On 18 July 2022, at the initiative of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the Centre for European Studies and the IES Institute for European Studies of Tbilisi State University, the roundtable *The Impact of Russia's War in Ukraine on the South Caucasus* was held. Armenian and Georgian students and alumni presented the respective perceptions in their countries and engaged in lively bilateral discussions.



## Countries of origin of graduates



## GC Caucasus in numbers



**5**  
Member  
universities



**14**  
Graduates

85% satisfaction rate



**3**  
Outreach events



**5**  
Training  
programmes

**“This experience was for me the pursuit of a dream of being able to deepen my knowledge of the world and its people. An adventure through different cultures, exchanging visions and perspectives, discussions and learning, a full baggage.”**

GC Caucasus student

Intercultural event at CES with the participation of GC Caucasus students, DEGES consortium members and CES staff.





# The European Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation

EMA



## People

**Thérèse Murphy**  
**Orla Ní Cheallacháin**  
**George Ulrich**  
**Chiara Altafin**  
**Zoi Aliozi**  
**Elisabetta Zennaro**  
**Martina Urbinati**  
**Stefania Saccarola**

Global Campus Headquarters

## Regional Network

University of Graz, Austria  
 University of Vienna, Austria  
 KU Leuven, Belgium  
 Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium  
 Sofia University St Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria  
 University of Zagreb, Croatia  
 University of Cyprus, Cyprus  
 Masaryk University of Brno, Czech Republic  
 University of Southern Denmark / Danish Institute  
 for Human Rights, Denmark  
 University of Tartu, Estonia  
 Åbo Akademi University, Finland  
 University of Helsinki, Finland  
 Université de Strasbourg, France  
 Université de Montpellier, France  
 Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany  
 University of Hamburg, Germany  
 Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece  
 Panteion University Athens, Greece  
 Eotvos Lorand University Budapest, Hungary  
 University of Galway, Ireland  
 University College Dublin, Ireland

University of Padua, Italy  
 Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy  
 University of Latvia, Latvia  
 University of Vilnius, Lithuania  
 Université du Luxembourg, Luxembourg  
 University of Malta, Malta  
 Maastricht University, the Netherlands  
 Utrecht University, the Netherlands  
 Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland  
 University of Coimbra, Portugal  
 New University of Lisbon, Portugal  
 University of Bucharest, Romania  
 Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia  
 University of Ljubljana, Slovenia  
 University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain  
 University of Seville, Spain  
 Lund University, Sweden  
 Uppsala University, Sweden  
 University of Lucerne  
 (Institute of Social Ethics), Switzerland  
 University of Nottingham, United Kingdom  
 Queen's University, Belfast, United Kingdom

Although the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact the academic year 2021/2022, the beginning of the new year brought new hope for a re-opening of Europe. Our in-take of students for 2021/2022 was reduced to respect public health restrictions in class, nonetheless we distributed our students to 38 of our 42 participating universities for their second semester and all 75 students successfully defended their theses. Moreover, in September 2022, EMA students from the academic years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 participated in a field trip to Kosovo for the first time since January 2020. These students had been unable to participate in the Kosovo trip due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They met not only with Prime Minister Albin Kurti, but also with representatives from all levels of society including international missions in Kosovo, local and national politicians, national institutions and civil society from across Kosovo society. Students reported this field trip was the final missing piece of the EMA puzzle and returned inspired and ready to pursue their own first steps in the human rights field.

In September 2022, we also welcomed 90 new students into the EMA community: for the first time in two years we were able to return to fully in-person classes and conduct all our practical skills building sessions in person. In keeping with the theme of youth as change

makers, this new class included many young human rights defenders, some of whom were fleeing persecution in their own countries, and who in addition to learning from our professors and experts also shared their experiences and the history of their country with our diverse student group.

### Curriculum in review

- A new specialised cluster on bioethics and bio-law, aimed at exploring developments related to new biotechnologies and human rights, the rights of non-humans, reproductive rights and new technologies was added to the EMA curriculum.
- Special attention was given to themes of biodiversity loss, sustainable development and the rights of indigenous peoples during the plenary teaching programme.
- Two new workshops on communicating human rights were offered: 1) 10 keys to effectively communicating human rights (delivered by staff of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency), and 2) a visual storytelling workshop using film and photography (delivered by Picture People).
- A strong focus was and will continue to be placed on mainstreaming children's rights, LGBTIQ rights, indigenous rights, and developments in the field of business and human rights.



1. During the field trip to Kosovo, GC Europe students and alumni visited the UN Women Kosovo Office and the town hall in Prishtina where they were received by the mayor.



2. Established and led by TBA21-Academy, and located in a former church in Venice, Ocean Space is a planetary centre for exhibitions, research and public programmes catalysing ocean literacy and advocacy through the arts. GC Europe students were invited to engage with Ocean Space's exhibit / multimedia installation created by artist and researcher Diana Policarpo in which she maps colonial histories through tracking natural biodiversity.



## Paul Lemmens

**Founding Member of the European Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA) and former Judge at the European Court of Human Rights**

Professor Paul Lemmens firmly believes that EMA, founded 25 years ago, is still relevant in current times. “We believed in human rights and democracy. We were aware that they needed to be defended and promoted. We agreed that universities had a responsibility to form people who could explain what human rights meant and what they required and who could help with the construction of a society and a world based on human rights and democracy. We believed in a multicultural Europe based on common European values. A programme with professors and students from various (mostly) European backgrounds could advance European integration. We believed in inter-university cooperation. We brought our strengths together and thus were able to offer a broad and multidisciplinary programme, something we could not possibly

achieve in our own, individual universities. And finally, we believed in the combination of theory and practice. With the support of international organisations (in particular, the EU) and NGOs, we wanted to let the students see how human rights operated in practice. Each and all of these reasons remain valid today.”

Asked about the most important topics and challenges ahead that will need to be addressed in the field of human rights, Prof Lemmens replies that we “simply” need to make sure that everyone can enjoy their fundamental rights. “There may be a need to slightly adapt the catalogue of human rights – I am thinking of collective rights, such as the right to a clean environment and a stable climate, but there is above all a need for a better implementation of rights. This is particularly important for vulnerable people, those who do

not know the ways how to obtain respect for their rights, who are insufficiently represented by interest groups. [...] I think of people who have lost their work and thereby some of their dignity: elderly people, immigrants, [...]. Populism and nationalism are also a big challenge for human rights. These are political movements fuelled by dissatisfaction with the current situation. Human rights, and the institutions set up to protect them (like the judiciary, national human rights institutes and international control bodies), are seen as the opposite of ‘common sense’. They are an easy target. ‘Easy’, in the sense that criticism is usually formulated without any sense for nuance. A challenge is: how to show that human rights are relevant today, for each of us.”

\* Global Campus of Human Rights Magazine No. 8 December 2022

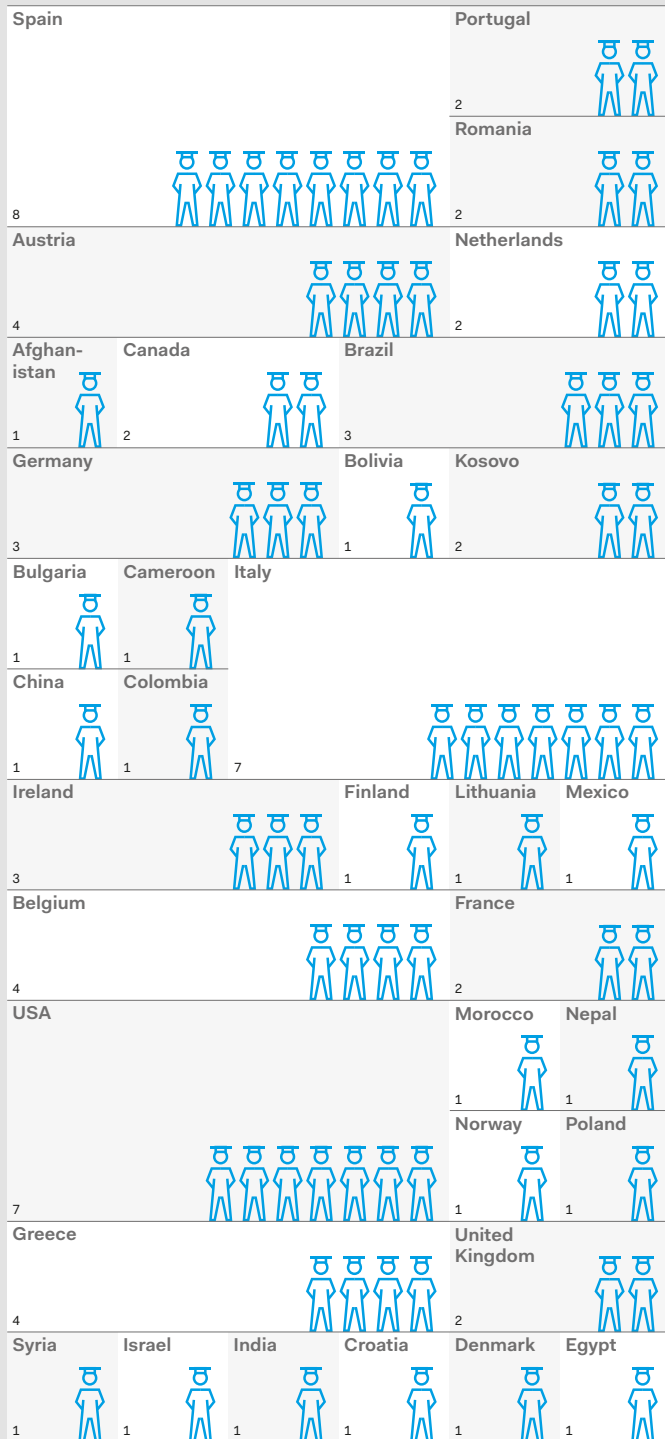


Each October, GC Europe students take a deep dive in the field of civil and political rights and participate in a moot court exercise in which they argue imaginary cases for practice. The cohort 2023 examined a case on the right to privacy and the right to family life under the guidance of Mits Martins, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights and GC Europe faculty.



GC Europe alumni are an invaluable resource for the Master's programme: in September 2022, they organised the traditional Career Day for the freshly arrived students; and in October 2022, alumna Milica Matijevic was invited to facilitate the EMA skills building session on human rights impact assessments.

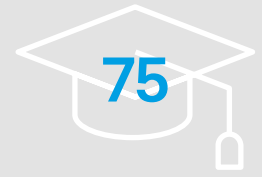
## Countries of origin of graduates



## GC Europe in numbers



42  
Member universities



75  
Graduates



6  
Awarded theses



86  
Academics and experts

“EMA changed my life, personally and professionally. I have never been a part of such an amazing community before. I will forever cherish this experience of teachings and common values.”

GC Europe student



Once more, the graduation ceremony took place in September in the stunning Scuola Grande di San Rocco, which is considered the Sistine chapel of Venice. Many students invited parents and friends who joined from all over the world.



# The Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in Latin America and the Caribbean

LATMA



Global Campus  
Latin America-Caribbean

## People

Héctor Mazzei  
Verónica Gómez  
Marina Pecar  
Diego López  
Jorge Migliore  
Claudia Couso  
Ángel David Zapata Martínez  
Melina García Bartolini  
Andrea Flores Ruilova  
Rocío Comas  
Laila Massaldi  
Melina Barreto  
Carolina Scarfo

Universidad Nacional  
de San Martín

## Regional Network

Universidad Nacional de San  
Martín, Argentina — *coordinator*

Universidad Mayor  
de San Andrés, Bolivia

Universidade Federal  
do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Universidad Nacional de Chile,  
Chile

Universidad de San Francisco  
de Quito, Ecuador

Universidad Rafael Landívar,  
Guatemala

Facultad Latinoamericana  
de Ciencias Sociales FLACSO,  
Mexico

Universidad del Pacífico, Peru

Universidad de la República, Uruguay

Universidad Nacional  
de Buenos Aires,  
Facultad de Ciencias Sociales,  
Argentina

Universidad Nacional de General  
Sarmiento, Argentina

Universidad Nacional de Lanús,  
Argentina

Universidad Nacional  
de Mar del Plata, Argentina

Universidad Nacional de Quilmes,  
Argentina

Universidad Nacional  
de Villa María, Argentina

Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE),  
Dominican Republic



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As for the previous academic year, the 2021/2022 Master's in Human Rights and Democratisation for Latin America-Caribbean was offered entirely online due to COVID-19 related restrictions. Still, it was a very successful cycle during which a new partner joined the regional network: the Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE) from the Dominican Republic, whose membership reinforces the participation of the Spanish-speaking Caribbean in academic affairs and lecturing.

Global Campus Latin America-Caribbean has continued to build on its exceptional, region-wide reputation and to position itself as the postgraduate hub for any professional intending to work in government, civil society and international organisations in the countries of the region in the area of human rights and democratisation. Global Campus Latin America-Caribbean has also strengthened alliances with key local, regional and global stakeholders with the idea to increase the network's influence in shaping public policies in the area of human rights, democracy and sustainable development. Some of these stakeholders, to mention just a few, are the United Nations, the Organisation of American States and MERCOSUR, as well as state agencies from various countries of the region.

In addition, the regional network has reinforced extra-curricular activities in order to provide information, analysis and capacity building alternatives, including by offering e-learning courses and opinion outlets. Finally, Global Campus Latin America-Caribbean included relevant changes in the curriculum, such as a workshop on professional practices focused on the protection of rights in the context of

armed conflict, with the war in Ukraine as case study. As for the curriculum, an in-depth review of the study programme was conducted and later approved by the Superior Council of the Universidad Nacional de San Martín. The new Master's programme 2022/2023 will offer a renewed study programme highlighting intersectional and cross-cutting approaches.

### Academic contributions on topical affairs

The Master's programme is run by the International Centre for Political Studies/ Centro Internacional de Estudios Políticos – (CIEP) at the Universidad Nacional de San Martín. Since 2018, the Centre has been engaging students and faculty in DIAGONALCIEP, a Spanish-language platform for the dissemination of information and analysis on human rights and democracy in Latin America and other regions of the world – a “meeting space between academia and current events”. In 2022, 22 short commentaries were published on different topics, from human trafficking to memory, from truth commissions to LGBTIQ, and from environment to indigenous people. In addition, Verónica Gómez, Global Campus President and representative of Global Campus Latin America-Caribbean, authored two articles: 'Human security: a Latin American perspective' (in collaboration with former Assistant Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights of the OAS, Elizabeth Abi-Mershed) in Gerd Oberleitner (editor) *Research Handbook on International Law and Human Security*, Elgar (2022); and 'Human Rights Organisations and Civil Society' (in collaboration with Antoine Buyse)

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# DIAGONALCIEP



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in Kes Biekart (editor) *A Research Agenda for Civil Society*, Elgar (2022).

### Working with state actors

Global Campus Latin America-Caribbean has an impressive record of collaborations with state institutions. Specifically, in 2022 it started its collaboration with the Council of the Judiciary of Ecuador in the area of the exchange of good practices, planning and participation in joint events and planning of capacity building activities. Global Campus Latin America-Caribbean has also continued its collaboration with the Ombudsperson of the City of Buenos Aires and the Supreme Court of Paraguay, which relies on the Master's for postgraduate training of their officials.

In June 2022, a workshop on access to justice for persons with mental disabilities was organised in collaboration with the Public Prosecutor's Office of Argentina. The workshop was led by Diana Sheinbaum Lerner (part of the team that carried out and achieved the sanction of Mexico in the case of Arturo Medina Vela before the UN Committee for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) and Ezequiel Mercurio and Lucila Bernardini (part of the team that carried out an *amicus curiae* in that case). The workshop presented international standards on human rights, disability, and access to justice for persons with disabilities. It sought to analyse the normative transformations in Latin America on mental health and legal capacity and identify the barriers and obstacles faced by persons with intellectual disabilities in criminal justice. Experts proposed tools for the

early identification of persons with possible intellectual disabilities and good practice guides in the defence of the human rights of this group.

**“LATMA was for me the opportunity to learn and reflect collectively with brilliant classmates, human rights committed defenders from the region, and guided by great teachers.”** GC Latin America-Caribbean student

### Outreach activities

From 28 to 30 March 2022, Global Campus Latin America-Caribbean hosted a *Regional Exchange of Good Practices and Challenges on the Promotion and Use of the Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Deaths*. The event was attended by representatives of public defenders' offices in Latin America and specialists in forensic medicine and science at regional and global levels, including Morris Tidball-Binz, UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions; Duarte Nuno Vieira, President of the Scientific Advisory Council of the International Criminal Court; and José Luis Prieto, Professor at the School of Legal Medicine of the Complutense University of Madrid and member of the National Corps of Forensic Doctors of Spain, among others. The event was co-sponsored by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.



GC Latin America-Caribbean staff members with Morris Tidball-Binz, UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, and Stella Maris Martínez, Defensora General de la Nación, Public Ministry of Defence.

## Countries of origin of graduates

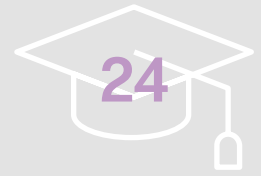


In October 2022, the 2022/2023 student cohort was able to start the academic year in person in Buenos Aires. Students come from most of the countries in the region. After two years of virtual learning, GC Latin America-Caribbean will have a fresh start, including with a brand new curriculum.

## GC Latin America-Caribbean in numbers



**16**  
Member universities



**24**  
Graduates

85% satisfaction rate



**5**  
Training programmes



**3**  
Publications

22 academic commentaries

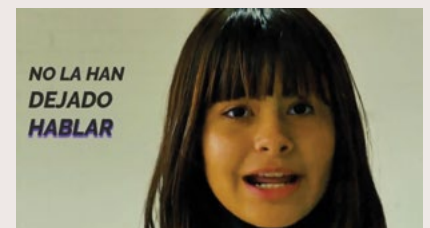


**3**  
Events

## Children, poetry and human rights

Global Campus Latin America-Caribbean is a partner of the Proyecto Gulliver, co-funded by Right Livelihood. The project has offered workshops to children and young people to develop creative language skills and cultural empowerment for improving social, cognitive and emotional skills as

well as knowledge, full exercise and defence of human rights. Children like Paulina de los Angeles, with her poem *Si me hacen callar, mi voz debe de alzar* (If they silence me, my voice needs to raise) have found a creative platform to express their concerns and address their rights.



# European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe

ERMA



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## People

Asim Mujkić  
Marco Borraccetti  
Mariana Hadzijusufović  
Alina Trkulja  
Aida Salihović-Gušić  
Marija Ivanović  
Nina Dragičević  
Mileva Piralčić  
Nejira Pašić

University of Sarajevo,  
University of Bologna

## Regional Network

University of Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
— *coordinator*

University of Bologna,  
Italy — *coordinator*

University of Graz, Austria

New Bulgarian University,  
Bulgaria

University of Zagreb, Croatia

Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany

University of Peloponnese, Greece

University of Prishtina, Kosovo

University Ss. Cyril and  
Methodius, North Macedonia

University of Belgrade, Serbia

University of Banja Luka, Bosnia  
and Herzegovina

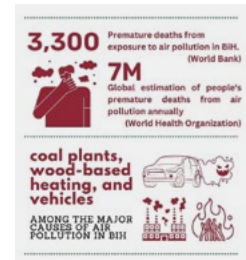
The European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe has continued to nurture its reputation as a forerunner of human rights education in the region and engage with its regional close-knit "human rights community". Beyond the 11 member universities, Global Campus South East Europe has invited eight lecturers from other universities and another eight practitioners from local organisations, as well as relying on a pool of over 100 organisations where students can intern. In addition, the traditional collaboration with the regional alumni association (EAN - ERMA Alumni Network) has been expanded, with the number of alumni involved in lecturing activities in 2021/2022 totalling nine. Alumni come from various countries and have diverse backgrounds, such as academic staff, IGO and NGO professionals.

**“ERMA has been a year full of offering me tools I can use to advance human rights globally. Today, I feel confident that I am able to work on human rights, which I now approach from diverse perspectives. Moreover, the program allowed me to connect with like-minded people who share similar concerns and visions for a better, healthier and more sustainable tomorrow.”** GC South East Europe student

The academic cycle 2021/2022 brought some changes at Global Campus South East Europe. Teaching went from entirely online to hybrid; students could travel again to Bertinoro in Italy (near Bologna) to complete their research work; a refreshed syllabus with new topics was introduced, including a cross-cutting focus on reconciliation and increased attention on the topic of migration which is now discussed from a legal, sociological and political standpoint; and a new member, Prof Ivana Spasić from University of Belgrade, joined the teaching staff.

## Advocacy skills

Global Campus South East Europe students are required to acquire practical skills, such as human rights advocacy. In December 2022, they were offered a training by an alumna who works for the international human rights organisation Civil Rights Defenders. Students created campaigns highlighting human rights issues they find important in the context of the society of Bosnia and Herzegovina. One of the groups worked on elderly people, while another engaged with the topic of air pollution.



## Internships that combine research and practical skills

In the academic cycle 2021/2022, students completed mandatory internships at 29 selected IGOs, NGOs, think tanks and research institutes across South East Europe. In line with the programme's policy, internship placement took place in a country different to the country of citizenship of the student: a decision aimed to promote diversity, different cultural experiences, and mobility – believed to be a necessary prerequisite for experts aiming to work in the field of human rights. During their internship, the students conducted research related to the topic of their theses, as well as responded to any duties assigned by their supervisor, who also assessed their performance.



## Research on children's rights

In 2022, Global Campus South East Europe successfully concluded two major research projects: the first being *Children in migration: perspectives from South East Europe*. Beginning in 2021, the project has involved academics from the regional network, partner organisations and alumni. Among the topics addressed in the forthcoming publication were age assessment of unaccompanied and separated children, alternative care, pushbacks as a border management practice, education, guardianship, trafficking, states' obligations, protection and care, and best interests of the migrant child.

The second research project, a partnership between the University of Sarajevo and Save the Children North West Balkans, was about violence against refugee and migrant children. *Wherever we go, someone does us harm: Violence against refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe through the Balkans* is the resulting report that presents in-depth research into the level and types of violence

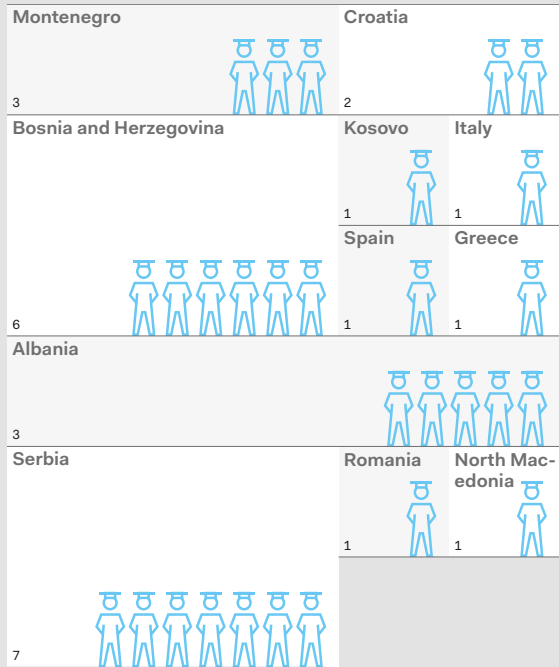
that children experience while attempting to reach Western Europe via the Balkans route, the circumstances of that violence and the policies and practices that exist to support children. The research was conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia, key transit countries. It is based on in-depth interviews with 48 children aged between 13 and 19 years and draws on focus group discussions with 27 professionals in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. Available in English, Serbian, Bosnian, Arabic and Farsi, the report also makes recommendations for governments, NGOs and other stakeholders to strengthen the protection and support available to these children.

Research with children is a core component of Global Campus South East Europe. This why a two-day training programme on the topic of *Researching children's rights: ethics and child participation* was organised on 28 November for university professors and assistants.



On 13 October 2022, GC South East Europe organised a discussion about the in-depth research and resulting report on violence against refugee and migrant children. Among the authors, Alina Trkulja, GC South East Europe Academic Coordinator, and Nikolina Milić, former GC Children's Rights Regional Officer.

## Countries of origin of graduates



## GC South East Europe in numbers



**Member universities**

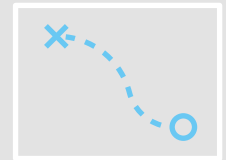


**Graduates**

95% satisfaction rate



**Research projects**



**Field trip**



**Internships**



The joy of GC South East Europe students at the graduation ceremony in Sarajevo, November 2022. Once more, the survey showed that students evaluated the overall learning experience as extremely good (9/10) and the education management and teaching as excellent (10/10).

# Alumni and alumnae inspire us

Our incredible ever-growing community of alumni is active all over the world. We wish we could feature them all. But here's a ...*sample!*

**Ashwanee Budoo-Scholtz**

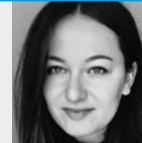
**GC Africa**



Ashwanee is the Deputy Director of the Africa Division at Human Rights Watch. She has worked on different human rights issues across the continent and beyond, focussing on women's rights, LGBTIQ rights, civic space, transitional justice, state reporting and African human rights institutions. Previously, she was the Programme Manager at Global Campus Africa. She supported the research and standard-setting functions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights' Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa and co-drafted the Senegalese Talibés case that was submitted to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

**Iryna Matviyishyn**

**GC Europe**



Iryna is a journalist and producer working in Ukraine, based between Lviv and Kyiv. She is currently a video reporter at the Kyiv Independent, where she has been reporting from the liberated areas (Chernihiv and Kherson) but also general video explanations about the war. She also has worked with the NGO Internews Ukraine, which specialises in media and communications, as a project coordinator, producer, analyst and journalist of the UkraineWorld media project, focusing predominantly on the Russian aggression against Ukraine and its implications for the country. Additionally, she worked as a local producer and contributor for the National Public Radio (NPR), working in different regions.

**Marina Shupac**

**GC Caucasus**



Marina is an award-winning journalist, self-shooting documentary filmmaker and human rights practitioner. Her latest human rights documentary, *Last Chance for Justice*, was commissioned by BBC World News. The film won the One World Media Award in the student and short film categories as well as the Special Mention at the International Human Rights Film Festival One World. Previously, Marina was awarded the Senior Minority Fellowship with the UN Human Rights Office and the Sakharov Fellowship with the European Parliament. Coming from an ethnic minority background and born in the small town of Bessarabca (Moldova), she is passionate about stories that diminish divisions between "us" and "them" and create solidarity among people.

**Mila Cantar**

**GC Latin America-Caribbean**



Mila is a human rights lawyer with experience in academia and international organisations such as WFP, UNHCR and the World Bank, working in women's rights and forced migration. After graduating from LATMA, she was a Fulbright Scholar, a PEO Scholar and a DKG Scholar while seeking a Master's in Public Administration at Cornell University. In 2022, Mila became Programme Policy Officer and member of the Gender Team for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Regional Bureau of the UN World Food Programme.

**Maria Aftab**

**GC Arab World**



Maria is the Head of Safeguarding with Save the Children International in Afghanistan. She has been working in the humanitarian sector for the past nine years in various roles, including child protection, child participation, gender and gender-based violence, safeguarding and human resources. She has experience working in multiple complex emergencies as a first respondent team member, including in Pakistan, Lebanon, Ethiopia and Afghanistan.

**Goran Miletić**

**GC South East Europe**



Goran is the Director for Europe at Civil Rights Defenders. His work includes cooperation and support of different human rights and minority NGOs from Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and North Macedonia, including drafting and lobbying for the adoption of inclusive anti-discrimination legislation in Western Balkan countries. In 2022, he was the coordinator of the Europride in Belgrade. He is currently finalising his PhD thesis at Law School University Union, Belgrade, with the subject of discrimination in civil proceedings.

**Jean Linis-Dinco**

**GC Asia-Pacific**



Jean is a PhD candidate in Cybersecurity at the University of New South Wales in Canberra, Australia. Her research analyses the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar using machine learning. Jean has been awarded as one of the Top 100 Women in Artificial Intelligence Ethics globally and has recently won the silver medal in the recently concluded Nobel Peace Prize Challenge for her open letter addressed to Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos.

**Saw Lin Htet**



GC Asia-Pacific student and activist from Myanmar featured in last year's Annual Report: imprisoned in March 2021 and interrogated several times after joining an anti-coup protest in Myanmar. Sentenced on 23 November 2021 and released on 17 November 2022, Saw Lin spent almost two years in prison and is currently still under watch as a former political prisoner.

## The Road Less Traveled

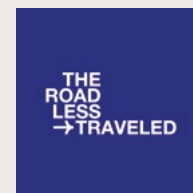


**Véronique Lerch**  
GC Europe Alumna

*The Road Less Traveled* is a project initiated by Professor Paolo de Stefani of the Human Rights Centre at the University of Padova, in cooperation with the Global Campus and led by an alumna from the European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation, Véronique Lerch. The project aims at broadening the career opportunities of graduates and exploring the less usual career paths which are possible after a degree in human rights.

A series of webinars was organised with alumni who are currently working at the subnational level, for the philanthropy sector, as journalists, in the arts field, who created their own NGOs or their own consultancy or coaching agencies. Webinars were followed by a first season of podcasts: a more in-depth interview with one graduate on their career path, what led them to human rights education, what are the learnings from their Master in human rights

that they are still using in their work and which piece of advice they would give to other graduates interested in taking a similar path. The podcasts are available on various podcast platforms, as well as at <https://www.therlt.info>.



# Venice connections

## Climate justice and sustainability

The Global Campus was invited to join the TALANOIA FORUM, organised by the New Institute Centre for Environmental Humanities (NICHE) as an extension of the critically acclaimed exhibition *Paradise Camp* presented at the New Zealand Pavilion at the 59<sup>th</sup> Venice Arts Biennale. Talanoa is a pan-Pacific word that describes a process of inclusive, participatory and transparent dialogue. The forum was an artist-led gathering that aggregated artists, curators, scholars, activists, community leaders and policymakers to extend the themes from *Paradise Camp* into a series of critical conversations around the topic of indigenous sovereignty and gender equality. Zoi Aliozi, faculty of Global Campus Europe, was part of the panel and spoke about climate justice and human rights. Zoi was also invited to give a seminar on climate justice within the course *Rights of Nature and Animal Rights: an Ecocentric Legal Approach* hosted in May 2022 by Venice International University and taught by Professor Sara De Vido, Ca' Foscari University. Students were offered

an opportunity to build a case of ecocide by applying and testing the reach of the proposed legal definition of ecocide.

Drawing inspiration from the theme of the Venice Architecture Biennale 2021: *How Will We Live Together*, the Global Campus has forged increasingly close cooperation with Venice-based architects about issues of social inclusion and future sustainability of the city's natural and cultural heritage over the course of the past years. In this spirit, Prof Sergio Pascolo of the Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia (IUAV) engaged some 75 architecture students of the 2022 graduating class within the Laboratory Sustainable Architecture in a project to hypothetically redesign the seat of our headquarters, the Monastery of San Nicolò, to better stimulate and support our human rights activities and render them more accessible to the local community. A fascinating selection of innovative ideas were presented by the IUAV student group in February 2022.

1



2



1. In the framework of the annual in-person meeting of the Right Livelihood - Global Campus Steering Group (April 2022), we organised a special experience to dive deep into Venetian culture. In collaboration with one of the oldest local rowing clubs, Remiera Casteo, we invited members to join a trip on a typical Venetian boat, a *Caorlina*. We explored a few quiet canals, learned about the history of the Sestiere Castello (one of the most authentic districts of Venice) and tried the famous Venetian standing rowing technique (*Voga alla Veneta*).

2. Model for a new Multipurpose Pavilion embedded in the Global Campus HQ developed by one of the IUAV teams (Giulia Bordignon, Andrea Debiasi, Alberto Farsura, Rebecca Traniello Gradassi).



# *Cosmocafé* explores conditions for sustainable coexistence



*Cosmocafé* on *Homo Faber, Man as Maker of his destiny and environment*, hosted by the Global Campus, April 2022.

Cosmocafés are the backbone of the Human Rights Pavilion. They invite thinkers and dreamers, visionaries and realists to sit down at one table to share their views on the future, human rights and responsibilities. They explore the condition for sustainable coexistence of individuals and human cultures with each other and with other species on the planet.

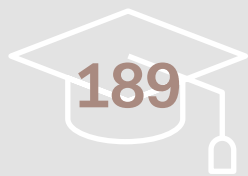
Cosmocafés, launched in the context of the 58<sup>th</sup> Venice Arts Biennale in 2019, are co-curated by the Communications and PR Department of the Global Campus comprised of Elisa Aquino, Giulia Ballarin and Isotta Esposito. The Global Campus was one of the initiators of Cosmocafé together with artist Koen Vanmechelen, Fondazione Berengo and MOUTH Foundation, and has been involving a growing network of partners.

# The Global Campus in numbers

Period of reference: August 2021 — July 2022



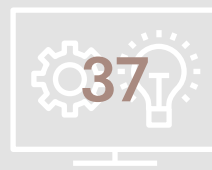
Participating universities



Graduates, 2021/22 student cohort



Nationalities of graduating students



Contracts for projects

in partnerships with universities and non-profits



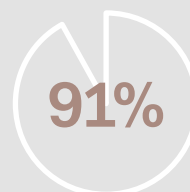
Scholarships



Internships

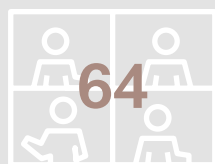


Alumni



Employment rate

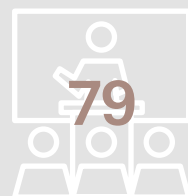
Based on answer rate of 59% of the last 3 cohorts of graduates



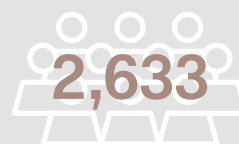
Training programmes



Participants in training programmes



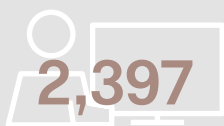
Events, seminars and workshops



Event, seminar and workshop participants



MOOCs



MOOC participants



Blog posts



Published works

Policy briefs, articles, theses and magazines

# Finances

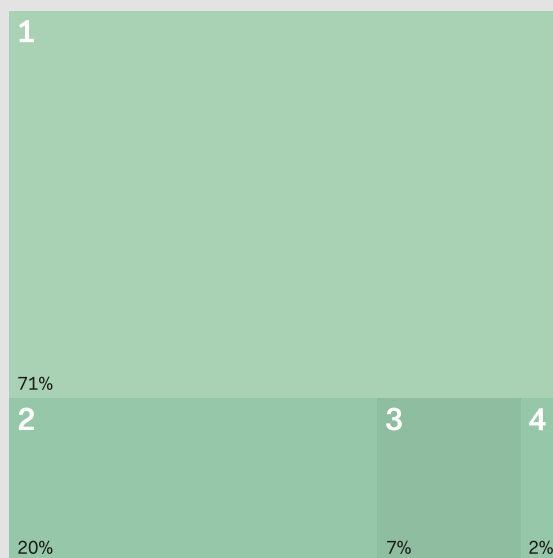


**Paolo Rech,**  
Finance Manager

**Giulia Vallata,  
Dania Ferrarese,  
Isabella Vianello,**  
Finance Officers

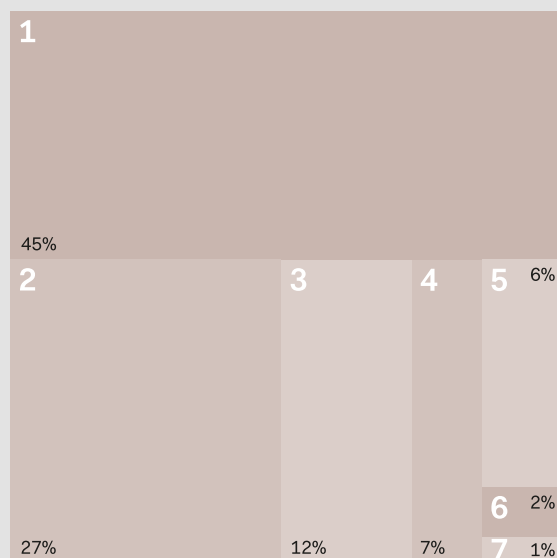
Period of reference: August 2021 — July 2022

Income **€ 7,802,277**



<b>1</b>	EU grant	€ 5,553,355
<b>2</b>	Right Livelihood grant	€ 1,554,436
<b>3</b>	Fee-based activities	€ 563,324
<b>4</b>	Other contributions	€ 131,162

Expenses **€ 7,659,311**



<b>1</b>	7 Regional Master's programmes	€ 3,452,715
<b>2</b>	Human resources	€ 2,088,840
<b>3</b>	Operational costs	€ 965,884
<b>4</b>	Children's rights projects	€ 523,782
<b>5</b>	Afghanistan programme	€ 450,552
<b>6</b>	Training seminars	€ 128,959
<b>7</b>	Capacity building Timor Leste	€ 48,579

We wish to thank our generous partners for their in-kind donations: the city of Venice for the free rental of our headquarters, the Monastery of San Nicolò in Lido, Venice;

and the member universities that host students during the second semester and put at disposal faculty and staff.

# Sneak Peek at 2023...

## Events & Trainings

<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Campus Human Rights Week (<i>International Conference on Science and Human Rights and Regional Launch of the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty</i>), Buenos Aires (Argentina)</li> <li>• MOOC <i>Transitology – Pathways to and from Democracy</i>, online</li> </ul>
<b>MARCH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on the European Convention on Human Rights, Venice (Italy)</li> <li>• <i>World Z-inspection® Conference on Artificial Intelligence</i>, by Z-Inspection® Initiative in collaboration with GC, Venice (Italy)</li> <li>• 6th Global Campus Conversation <i>International Women's Day 2023: Embrace Equity</i>, online</li> </ul>
<b>APRIL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Afghanistan Symposium for scholarship recipients and Nowruz celebration, Venice (Italy)</li> <li>• Training course <i>Strengthening Political Processes Through Technical Assistance</i>, Venice (Italy)</li> <li>• <i>GC Human Rights Journal</i> Vol. 6.1 with a focus on internal displacement</li> <li>• Summer school on <i>Human Rights &amp; Good Governance for Security in Central Asia</i>, by OSCE Academy Bishkek in collaboration with GC, Tashkent (Uzbekistan)</li> </ul>
<b>MAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOOC <i>Children's Mental Health: Rights and Perspectives</i>, online</li> <li>• Podcast <i>Hope-based human rights</i>, online</li> </ul>
<b>JUNE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Venice School for Human Rights Defenders</i>, Venice (Italy)</li> <li>• Publication and launch of <i>Woman Access to Transitional Justice in Timor-Leste (Tetum edition)</i> supported by USAID, Dili (Timor Leste)</li> <li>• Closing event of the project <i>Advancing Child Rights Strategic Litigation (ACRiSL)</i>, Nottingham (UK)</li> </ul>
<b>JULY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Global State of Human Rights Conference</i>, in cooperation with the European Parliament, Venice (Italy)</li> </ul>
<b>AUGUST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer School <i>Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy</i>, Venice (Italy)</li> </ul>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International conference <i>Human Rights Defenders Under Siege</i> by Association of Human Rights Institutes in collaboration with GC, Bilbao (Spain)</li> <li>• Global Campus &amp; Auschwitz Institute Joint <i>Annual Engaged Artist Award on Atrocity Prevention and Human Rights</i>, Venice (Italy)</li> </ul>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Classroom <i>Child Labour and Youth Unemployment</i>, Cairo (Egypt)</li> </ul>
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Campus &amp; Swatch Joint <i>Annual Artist Award on Arts, Peace and Human Rights</i>, Venice (Italy)</li> </ul>

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## Projects & Programmes

- New and eighth Master's programme Human Rights and Sustainability in Central Asia, in partnership with OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Capacity development project at Moldova State University, Chisinau (GC Caucasus)
- Global Internship Programme for selected alumni
- Joint Project with Right Livelihood on 'Reconceptualising Exile'
- Comprehensive curriculum review (GC Europe)
- Project 'Economic, social and cultural rights as rights of the child – Empowering children in building a better future' coordinated by Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland
- Development of a Digital Handbook on MOOC Design
- Commissioned MOOC "Co-designing migrant integration in your city"
- Partnership between GC Human Rights Preparedness Blog and GC Human Rights e-Journal for selected alumni as regional correspondents

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## Visit us in our Venice Headquarters

Nestled between the lagoon and the beach on the Lido of Venice, the 14<sup>th</sup> century Monastery of San Nicolò is home to the Global Campus of Human Rights Headquarters. Should you want to visit us to see the monastery and meet with our staff, please contact us at [info@gchumanrights.org](mailto:info@gchumanrights.org) or +39 041 2720911.



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Fun fact: In 1979, the GC HQ, the Monastery of San Nicolò on the island of Lido - Venice, was transformed into a Brazilian training camp for the shooting of the James Bond movie "Moonraker" starring Roger Moore. San Nicolò has also hosted the production of the 1971 Italian-French drama film Death in Venice directed by Luchino Visconti and based on the eponymous novella by German author Thomas Mann.





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## Nicola Tonon — *In memoriam*



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On 22 September 2022, the GC Community was affected by the shocking news of the sudden death of our dear friend and colleague Nicola Tonon. He was only 44 years young.

He worked for EIUC (the previous configuration of the Global Campus) and the Global Campus in Venice for 16 years as a highly competent IT and web advertising coordinator and has left a profound imprint on our organisation in many regards. In the vast technologic universe, where specialisation is more and more the norm, he was incredibly skilled and versatile in so many ways: from being at the heart of the architecture of the IT system in place at our HQ in Venice to overseeing the huge digital documental archive and library produced by our institution since its inception 25 years ago; from mastering web development to being the engine behind online advertising of our

courses and in charge of technical support to all our e-learning outputs. This all added to his unique qualities and professionalism.

But more than this, Nicola was also unique as a person. If all of us are unique, he showed a higher gradient of uniqueness than many. With all his light and nuances, he had a strong personality, equalled only by his generosity. Everybody who has placed a foot in the Monastery in the past 16 years got to know him and had the chance to appreciate his friendly and ironic attitude. He is enormously missed.

A scholarship has been created in memory of Nicola for prospective qualified EMA students who commit to researching the topic of Information Technology and Human Rights.

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## Daniela Napoli — *In memoriam*



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Daniela Napoli led the first Human Rights and Democratisation Unit created by the European Commission in 1999. The Unit was at the forefront of EU engagement on human rights actions at a time which predated the entry into force of the Treaty of Amsterdam.

In those pioneering years, Daniela, together with Antonio Papisca, Director of the Human Rights Centre of the University of Padua, promoted the establishment of the European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation as the largest European and at the time also global network for human rights education and training with the participation of universities, international organisations, NGOs, local authorities and private foundations.

Her determination was extraordinary to promote the development of the Master's programme in terms of both content and network building. With her ideas, she was able to inspire and nurture curriculum development and to orient human rights training according to an "operational, practice-oriented and interdisciplinary" approach.

It is thanks to her example that we continue to renew our commitment to human rights and democracy education, aware that it is the most stable road to building a more just, equitable, supportive, and democratic international order.

Daniela was awarded the Global Campus Medal of Honour at the GC Europe graduation ceremony in September, which was received by her husband who joined us in Venice on this occasion.

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## Thulani Maseko — *In memoriam*



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It is with a sad heart and shock that we learned of the targeted assassination of Thulani Rudolf Maseko on 21 January 2023 at the age of 53. Thulani was a graduate of Global Campus Africa in 2005. He was working on a doctorate in law at the Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria – the home of the Africa programme.

Before completing the LLM, Thulani graduated with a BA in Law and LLB from the University of Swaziland and a Master's in International Legal Studies from the American University Washington College of Law. He was a founding member of Lawyers for Human Rights (Swaziland), where he also was the Executive Director and a Trustee; worked for the International Commission of Jurists; was Chair of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum, a coalition of various stakeholders advocating for constitutional reform in Eswantini; and, until his passing, worked as an attorney focusing on human rights and constitutional law.

He was awarded the prestigious Vera Chirwa Award by the Centre for Human Rights in 2011 for his fearless and never-ending devotion to the people of Africa, especially Swaziland and Eswantini. Thulani also is known for his wrongful imprisonment for contempt of court for speaking out against the monarchy in Swaziland. The Supreme Court later admitted the injustice.

In the words of the Centre, "Thulani was a human rights defender of great and justified reputation. He was deeply dedicated to human rights, the rule of law and democracy in Eswantini. He slept, breathed, ate and walked human rights. He was also a spirited and committed public intellectual, not shying away from the risk of taking public positions at odds with that of the powerful monarchy."





# Global Campus of Human Rights

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Europe  
South East Europe  
Latin America-  
Caribbean

Asia-Pacific  
Caucasus  
Arab World  
Africa

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