

SUMMER SCHOOL

HUMAN RIGHTS

&

PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY

17 – 20 June 2025

DESCRIPTION

The course aims to provide an immersion in issues related to persons deprived of liberty from the perspective of international human rights law, public health, criminal law, and practice. More broadly, the Summer School ‘Human Rights and Persons Deprived of Liberty’ aims to prepare participants to understand structural problems around prisons and contribute to the improvement of the human rights of persons deprived of liberty in their homeland and around the world. The summer course gives participants the opportunity to interact with world-renowned scholars and experts in the field.

The course is intended for persons interested in issues surrounding prisons, such as master’s, LLM’s, PhD’s, and postdoctoral researchers with a background in law, political science, public health, or criminology, as well as staff of civil society organisations and policymakers.

Upon completion of the summer course, participants will have acquired:

- Knowledge about international standards for the protection of the human rights of persons deprived of liberty;
- Knowledge about the most important institutions and mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights at the global, regional and national levels;
- The ability to identify some legal, political and social strategies to safeguard the human rights of persons deprived of liberty;
- Knowledge of recommendations to bring about change and improvements.

The course is offered by the IMPACTUM research project, the Programme for Studies on Human Rights in Context (Ghent University, Belgium), and the Global Campus on Human Rights (Austria). We are committed to the promotion of human rights. Our goal is to preserve the standards of quality education and to continue our mission of preparing students to meet the growing challenges to the rule of law, democracy and human rights around the world. Candidates who self-identify as belonging to vulnerable or minority groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

PROGRAMME

Each lecture will have a duration of 40 minutes and will be live-streamed via Microsoft Teams. After each lecture, there will be 10 minutes during which the participants can interact with each other and the lecturer on the given topic.

Daily Schedule

Time	Tuesday 17 June	Wednesday 18 June	Thursday 19 June	Friday 20 June
13.50-14.00h	Welcome Prof Dr M Nowak and Prof Dr C Burbano	Introduction Prof Dr Clara Burbano Herrera	Introduction Prof Dr Clara Burbano Herrera	Introduction Prof Dr Clara Burbano Herrera
14.00-14.40h	Lecture 1	Lecture 1	Lecture 1	Lecture 1
14.40-14.50h	Interaction moment	Interaction moment	Interaction moment	Interaction moment
14.50h-15.00h	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
15.00-15.40h	Lecture 2	Lecture 2	Lecture 2	Lecture 2
15.40-15.50h	Interaction moment	Interaction moment	Interaction moment	Interaction moment
15.50-16.00h	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
16.00-16.40h	Lecture 3	Lecture 3	Lecture 3	Lecture 3
16.40-16.50h	Interaction moment	Interaction moment	Interaction moment	Interaction moment & Evaluation
End				

These times apply to the Belgian time zone: **UTC+2** (during summer). Please be aware that these times may vary for you, depending on your time zone. [Click here to calculate your time difference.](#)

The course is articulated in four days/modules as follows:

Day 1 focuses on the international human rights framework of persons deprived of liberty and looks at international human rights bodies, legal standards, and their jurisprudence

Lecturer 1 *Prof Dr Manfred Nowak, Global Campus of Human Rights, University of Vienna*
Persons Deprived of Liberty & the UN Human Rights System

Lecturer 2 *Prof Dr Paulo Pinto de Albuquerque, Catholic University of Lisbon, former judge European Court of Human Rights*
Persons Deprived of Liberty & the European Human Rights System

Lecturer 3 *Prof Sofía Galván, University Network for Human Rights, USA*
Persons Deprived of Liberty & the Inter-American Human Rights System

Day 2 deals with the cross-cutting themes on 3 focus areas

Lecturer 1 *Prof Dr Heino Stöver, Frankfurt University of Applied Science, Germany*
Mental Health & Persons Deprived of Liberty with special focus on COVID-19

Lecturer 2 *Prof Dr Par Engstrom, University College London, UK*
Torture Prevention in Latin America: Rights of Persons Deprived of Liberty and the Role of National Preventive Mechanisms

Lecturer 3 *Dr Krešimir Kamber, Adviser Private Office of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, France*

Solitary Confinement in European Legal Standards

Day 3 looks at specific countries and discusses specific problems, challenges, opportunities, recommendations, and the way forward. The lectures will examine some contextual situations, examples, and practices from specific countries

Lecturer 1 *Prof Dr Benyam Dawit Mezmur, University of the Western Cape, independent expert of the United Nation's Committee on the Rights of the Child*

Persons Deprived of Liberty in Africa

Lecturer 2 *Prof Dr Tom Daems, University of Leuven*

Imprisonment and Human Rights in Belgium

Lecturer 3 *Mr Daniel Cerqueira, Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF), USA*

The Role of Human Rights Organizations in the Protection of Persons Deprived of Liberty in Latin America

Day 4 is dedicated to vulnerable groups in the 3 focus areas

Lecturer 1 *Prof Bernice Elger, University of Basel, Switzerland*

Elderly Persons Deprived of Liberty

Lecturer 2 *Dr Pauline Jacobs, Tilburg University, The Netherlands*

Transgender Persons Deprived of Liberty

Lecturer 3 *Mr Manu Krishan, Global Campus of Human Rights*

Children Deprived of Liberty

LECTURERS

Prof Dr Clara Burbano Herrera, Research Professor of Human Rights, Director of the Programme for Studies on Human Rights in Context, Principal Investigator ERC IMPACTUM project, Ghent University, Belgium

Mr Daniel Cerqueira, Brazilian lawyer, Program Director, Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF), United States. Former Specialist Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Washington DC, USA

Prof Dr Tom Daems, Professor of Criminology, Leuven Institute for Criminology, University of Leuven, Belgium

Prof Dr Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Independent expert of the United Nation's Committee on the Rights of the Child, Professor University of the Western Cape, South Africa

Prof Dr Bernice Elger, Professor of Ethics and Health Law, Head of Institute for Biomedical Ethics, University of Basel, Switzerland

Prof Dr Par Engström, Associate Professor of Human Rights, University College London and Programme Director of the MSc International Relations of the Americas, University College London, United Kingdom

Prof Dr Pauline Jacobs, Assistant Professor in Criminal (Procedure) Law at Tilburg University, The Netherlands

Dr Krešimir Kamber, Adviser Private Office of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, France

