

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM)

Prof. Hannes Tretter

University of Vienna, Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM), Vice-chair of the Management Board of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

Mag.^a Astrid Steinkellner

Legal researcher, Human Rights in Development Cooperation and Business (BIM)

Study Visit: Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Bhutan

Vienna, 16 November 2010



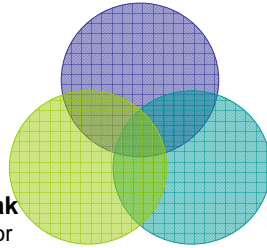
The Institute

- ▶ Non-university research institution under the umbrella of the Ludwig Boltzmann Association
- ▶ Named after the Austrian physicist and philosopher Ludwig Boltzmann (1844 – 1906)
- ▶ Founded in 1992 by Felix Ermacora († 1995), Manfred Nowak and Hannes Tretter
- ▶ Tasks and objectives:
 - ▶ Human rights research on national, European and international level
 - ▶ Link between research and practice of human rights
 - ▶ Documentation, teaching and training
 - ▶ Close cooperation with national and international public bodies, organisations and civil society organisations (in the fields of politics, education, economy and media)
 - ▶ Policy advice
- ▶ Directors: Univ. Prof. Dr. Manfred Nowak, ao. Univ. Prof. Dr. Hannes Tretter and Mag.^a Fiona Steinert



Team of Directors

Fiona Steinert
Managing director



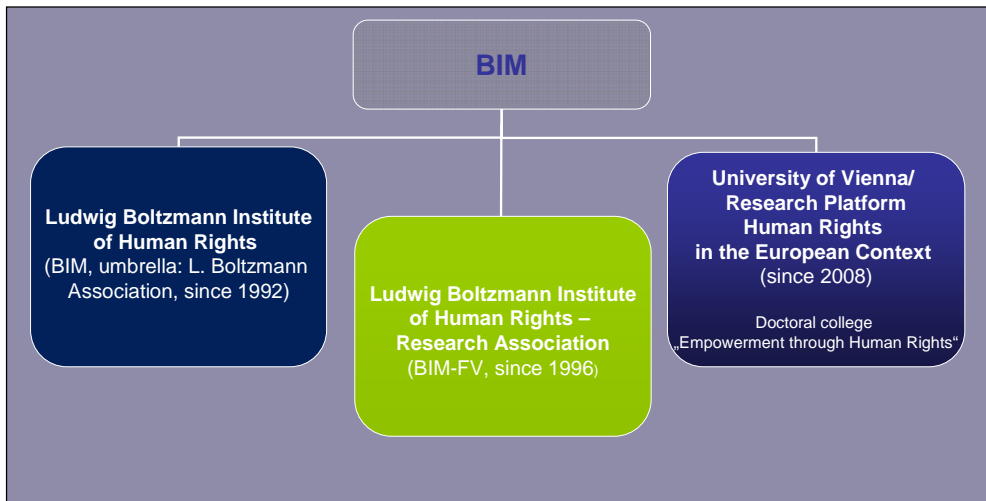
Manfred Nowak
Scientific director

Hannes Tretter
Scientific director

- Professor for International Human Rights Law, Institute of European, International and Comparative Law, Univ. of Vienna (since 2007)
- Head of interdisciplinary research platform „Human Rights in the European Context“, Univ. of Vienna (since 2008)
- Former UN Special Rapporteur on Torture (2004-2010); EU project “Atlas of Torture” (upcoming)
- Professor for Fundamental and Human Rights, Institute of Constitutional and Administrative Law, Univ. of Vienna
- Vice-Chair of the Management Board of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) (since 2007)
- Responsible for EU „Twinning“ and „Technical Assistance“ projects as well as a variety of BIM research projects



Structure



BIM areas of research

1. Human Dignity and Public Security (esp. prevention of torture)
 2. Development Cooperation and Business (i.e. research, consultancy, implementation)
 3. Human Rights and Civic Education (e.g. courses for judges and future judges)
 4. European Neighbourhood and Integration Policy
 5. Antidiscrimination, Asylum and Migration (i.a. university courses on protection against discrimination)
 6. Women's Rights, Child Rights, Trafficking in Human Beings (e.g. UN Children's Rights Convention into Austrian Constitution)
- ▶ Crosscutting issue: Information Society (esp. data protection)



Fundamental rights curriculum for judgeship trainees

- ▶ Judicial career: studies of law – 9 months practical training – selection process – 3 years of professional training – judgeship exam
- ▶ 2007: Initiative by Association of Austrian Judges (Department for Fundamental Rights), funded by Federal Ministry of Justice
- ▶ Elaboration of curriculum by BIM together with European Training- and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (ETC, Graz) and the Austrian Human Rights Institute (OIM, Salzburg)
- ▶ Script and case studies on different fields of national law linked to fundamental rights issues (focus: European Convention on Human Rights and EU Charter of Fundamental Rights)
- ▶ Since 2008 obligatory seminars conducted in tandem principle (human rights experts together with senior judges)
- ▶ Training modules:
 - ▶ Introduction to human rights
 - ▶ Civil law and procedures
 - ▶ Criminal law and procedures
 - ▶ Proceedings before the European Court of Human Rights and impact of its judgments
 - ▶ Database research
 - ▶ Interpreting in court
 - ▶ Data protection and the judiciary



European Neighbourhood and Integration Policy

- ▶ BIM is engaged in EU integration policy in the context of EU Enlargement Policy and European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) – financed by European Commission
- ▶ BIM focus: policy advice, research on EU *acquis communautaire* (legal framework of EU) and on EU good practices with regard to human rights, rule of law and good governance
- ▶ General mandate of EC to act on behalf of public authorities in the implementation of EU Twinning projects
- ▶ Bilateral partnership projects with public institutions in accession, candidate, potential candidate and neighbourhood states
- ▶ Aim:
 - ▶ Harmonisation of legislation in partnering countries with EU *acquis*
 - ▶ Institution building
- ▶ 20 selected projects since 2003 in Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Turkey, Ukraine and Hungary on the following topics:
 - ▶ Prevention of trafficking in human beings
 - ▶ Data protection
 - ▶ Anti-discrimination
 - ▶ Gender equality
 - ▶ Asylum law
 - ▶ Police interrogation techniques
 - ▶ Criminal investigation procedures
 - ▶ Administrative court system reform



Web links

- ▶ Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM): <http://bim.lbg.ac.at>
- ▶ Zentrum POLIS, Politik Lernen in der Schule: www.politik-lernen.at
- ▶ European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, FRA: www.fra.europa.at
- ▶ European Commission, DG Enlargement:
http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/index_en.htm

Thank you for your attention!

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