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LUDWIG
BOLTZMANN
INSTITUTE
Fundamental and Human Rights

CONFERENCE

UN WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN VIENNA 1993

STRENGTHENING IMPERATIVES 30 YEARS AFTER

MAIN CEREMONIAL HALL,
UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

PALAIS TRAUTSON,
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

27 – 29 SEPTEMBER 2023

Day I Wednesday, 27 September 2023

Location

Main Ceremonial Hall of the University of Vienna
Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna

09.00 – 09.45

WELCOME

Michael Lysander Fremuth

Professor of Fundamental and Human Rights, University of Vienna
Scientific Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights

Alexander Schallenberg

Federal Minister for European and International Affairs of the Republic of Austria

Sebastian Schütze

Rector of the University of Vienna

Brigitta Zöchling-Jud

Dean of the Law Faculty of the University of Vienna

Frank Suder

Director of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation

09.45 – 10.00

VIDEO MESSAGE

Volker Türk

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

10.00 – 11.30

PANEL I

Combatting Climate Change – What Role for the Judiciary and Civil Society?

Responsible Organisation:

Academy for European Human Rights Protection, University of Cologne

Chair: Angelika Nußberger

Academy for European Human Rights Protection, University of Cologne

Susanne Baer

The German Climate Ruling – An Intertemporal Understanding of Fundamental Rights
Humboldt University of Berlin

Lorenz Wielenga

(Strategic) Climate Litigation and the Separation of Powers – An Uneasy Relationship?
Academy for European Human Rights Protection, University of Cologne

Joschka Selinger

Protecting Fundamental Rights – Climate Civil Disobedience in Court
Gesellschaft für Freiheitsrechte e.V. / Society for Civil Rights, Berlin

11.30 – 11.45

COFFEE BREAK

11.45 – 13.15

PANEL II

Minority Rights after the Vienna Declaration – Positive Progress or Missing in Action?

Responsible Organisation:

Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research, University of Sussex

Chair: Stephanie Berry

Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research, University of Sussex

David Keane

Reflections on the Role of ICERD in the Global Protection of Minorities
Dublin City University

Isilay Taban

An Afterthought No More – Mainstreaming the Rights of Minorities in UN Treaty Body Practice
University of Brighton

Anna-Mária Bíró and Corinne Lennox

Global Governance on Minority Rights – Assessing Participation and Normative Trends in the UN Forum on Minority Issues
Tom Lantos Institute; University of London

Fernand de Varennes

Minority Rights after the Vienna Declaration – Positive Progress, Missing in Action... or an Unfinished Story?
UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues

13.15 – 14.30

LUNCH BREAK

14.30 – 16.00

PANEL III***Women's Rights as Human Rights*****Responsible Organisation:**

Birmingham City University's Centre for Human Rights

Chair: Rebecca Smyth

Birmingham City University's Centre for Human Rights

Shaimaa Abdelkarim*Locating Egyptian Feminist Practices in Counter Hegemonic Human Rights Spaces*

University of Birmingham

Reem Alsalem*Emerging Issues in Violence against Women – Changes, Challenges and Opportunities*

UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and Girls

Melissa Upreti*The UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls' Focus on Reasserting Gender Equality and Resisting Rollbacks – Progress, Challenges, and Opportunities*

Member, UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls

Alice Storey*The UN's Universal Periodic Review – Towards the Eradication of Violence against Women?*Birmingham City University

16.00 – 16.30

COFFEE BREAK

16.30 – 17.30

PANEL IV***Human Rights in the Digital Age*****Responsible Organisation:**

Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

Chair: Thérèse Murphy

Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

Sue Anne Teo

The Slow Violence of Fast-Developing Technologies – How AI Unravels the Normative Justifications of the Right to Privacy and Human Dignity

Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

David Kaye

From Moderation to Regulation – Embedding Human Rights in the New Wave of Government Response to Online Harms

Former UN Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression

Doaa Abu-Elyounes

Advancing the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights through the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI

UNESCO

17.30 – 18.45

PODIUM DISCUSSION

***The Legacy of the World Conference on Human Rights
– In memoriam Felix Ermacora***

Responsible Organisation:

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights

Chair: Christina Binder

Bundeswehr University Munich

Manfred Nowak

Global Campus of Human Rights, Venice

Frederick John Packer

University of Ottawa

Christian Strohal

Former Ambassador of Austria for the UN World Conference on Human Rights 1993

19.30

EVENING PROGRAMME

Reception at the Vienna City Hall and Conference Dinner

Day II Thursday, 28 September 2023

Location

Palais Trautson, Austrian Federal Ministry of Justice,
Museumstraße 7, 1010 Vienna

09.00 – 09.15

WELCOME

Alma Zadić

Federal Minister of Justice of the Republic of Austria

09.15 – 10.30

PANEL V

Human Rights of LGBTI Persons – Far from Universal Recognition?

Responsible Organisation:

University of Lausanne

Chair: Andreas R. Ziegler

University of Lausanne

Victor Madrigal-Borloz

Seven Years of the Mandate of the UN Independent Expert on Protection against Violence and Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity – What Has Been Done, What Remains?
UN Independent Expert on Protection against Violence and Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Julia Ehrt

From Absence to Contested Advances – The Long Road towards the Recognition of SOGIESC Issues
ILGA World – The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association

Suhail Abualsameed

The 'M' in LGBTQ – The Evolution of Sexual and Gender Paradigms through Nation Building in the Levant Region
Independent International Consultant

10.30 – 10.45

COFFEE BREAK

10.45 – 12.15

PANEL VI***Regional Perspectives on Human Rights from the Global South*****Responsible Organisations:**

Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria & Association of Human Rights Institutes

Chair: Magnus Killander

Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria

Jainaba Johm*The Impact of Special Mechanisms on the Work of the African Commission of Human and Peoples Rights*

National Human Rights Commission, The Gambia

Vitit Muntarbhorn*Evolving Human Rights Mechanisms in the Asian Region*

UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Cambodia

Elizabeth Salmón*The Impact of the Vienna Declaration on Regional Protection of Human Rights in the Americas*

Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

Tomás Pascual*Chile and Human Rights – 50 Years after the Coup*

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Chile

12.15 – 13.30

LUNCH BREAK

13.30 – 15.00

PANEL VII***Business and Human Rights*****Responsible Organisation:**

Centre for Human Rights, Friedrich Alexander University (FAU) Erlangen-Nuremberg

Chairs: Patricia Wiater and Markus Krajewski

Centre for Human Rights, FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg

Humberto Cantú Rivera

University of Monterrey

Surya Deva

UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development

Justine Nolan

Australian Human Rights Institute, University of New South Wales Sydney

Anita Ramasastry

University of Washington

15.00 – 15.15

COFFEE BREAK

15.15 – 16.30

PANEL VIII

Realising the Human Right to Science – Threats, Challenges and Possibilities

Responsible Organisations:

Austrian Human Rights Institute &
European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy

Chairs: Philip Czech and Gerd Oberleitner

University of Salzburg and University of Graz

Gabriela Ramos (video message)

UNESCO Assistant Director-General

Helle Porsdam

The Right to Science – Possibilities and Challenges

University of Copenhagen

Konstantinos Tararas

The UNESCO Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers – Perspectives for Advancing the Right to Science

UNESCO

16.30 – 16.45

COFFEE BREAK

16.45 – 18.00

PANEL IX

***Respecting and Ensuring Human Rights of Migrants and Refugees
– Contemporary Challenges and Good Practices***

Responsible Organisation:

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, Office in Austria)

Chair: Birgit Einzenberger

UNHCR, Office in Austria

Madeline Garlick

A Long Way to Go – Addressing Protection Challenges in Mixed Movements of Refugees and Migrants

UNHCR Division of International Protection, Geneva

Vasilka Sancin

Climate Change and Migration

University of Ljubljana

Liliana Lyra Jubilut

Enhancing the Protection of Refugees and Other Migrants through Human Rights

– Good Practices from Latin America

Catholic University of Santos

Shaza Alrihawi

Seeking Asylum – Addressing Human Rights Violations and Protecting Refugee Rights

from Lived Experience Perspective

Global Refugee-led Network

19.00

EVENING PROGRAMME

***Reception at the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs
of the Republic of Austria*** (only on personal invitation)

Day III Friday, 29 September 2023

Location

Palais Trautson, Austrian Federal Ministry of Justice,
Museumstraße 7, 1010 Vienna

09.00 – 09.15

WELCOME

Martin Polaschek (video message)

Federal Minister of Education, Science and Research of the Republic of Austria

09.15 – 10.30

PANEL X

Human Rights Protection within the EU – The EU's Role

Responsible Organisation:

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Chair: Gabriel N. Toggenburg

The EU as a Human Rights Organisation – Limitations and Potential

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Marie-Laure Basilien-Gainche

The EU and the Fundamental Rights of Migrants – Challenges and Concerns

University Jean Moulin Lyon 3, Institut Universitaire de France

Delia Ferri

An Assessment of the EU's Human Rights Performance – The Case of Equality and Disability

Maynooth University

Elena Kountouri Tapiero

The EU's Human Rights Performance from the Perspective of the UN and the VDPA

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Regional Office for Europe

10.30 – 10.45

COFFEE BREAK

10.45 – 12.00

PANEL XI***Reform of the UN Treaty Bodies*****Responsible Organisation:**

Human Rights Centre of the University of Potsdam

Chair: Norman Weiß

Human Rights Centre of the University of Potsdam

Nils-Hendrik Grohmann*Strengthening the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies*

University of Potsdam; Kammergericht Berlin

Hélène Tigroudja*The Treaty Body Reform and the Global Challenges*

Aix-Marseille University

Andreas Zimmermann*Treaty Bodies in Challenging Times – Upholding the Integrity of the UN Human Rights System in face of Contestations*

Human Rights Centre of the University of Potsdam

12.00 – 13.00

LUNCH BREAK

13.00 – 14.00

PODIUM DISCUSSION***Ombuds Institutions as Human Rights Stakeholders*****Responsible Organisation:**

Austrian Ombudsman Board (Volksanwaltschaft)

Chair: Johannes Carniel

Austrian Ombudsman Board

Kholeka Gcaleka

Acting Public Protector of the Republic of South Africa

Tena Šimonović Einwalter

Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia

Barbara Liegl

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights

14.00 – 15.00

PANEL XII***National Human Rights Institutions – Bringing Human Rights Home*****Responsible Organisation:**

German Institute for Human Rights

Chair: Beate Rudolf

German Institute for Human Rights

Gillian Triggs*NHRIs and the Rights of Refugees*

UN Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR

Bongani Majola*NHRIs and the Domestic Realisation of Economic and Social Rights*

South African Human Rights Commission

Sirpa Rautio*NHRIs, Human Rights Defenders, and Civic Space*

Human Rights Centre, European Network of National Human Rights Institutions

15.00 – 15.15

COFFEE BREAK

15.15 – 16.30

PODIUM DISCUSSION***Human Rights Defenders – How Civil Society Makes a Difference*****Responsible Organisation:**

Austrian League for Human Rights

Chair: Angelika Watzl

Austrian League for Human Rights

Guadalupe Marengo

Amnesty International

Alice Mogwe

International Federation for Human Rights; Ditshwanelo – The Botswana Centre for Human Rights

Michael Phoenix

Office of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders

Marianne Schulze

Board Member, Global Initiative on Psychiatry

16.30 – 17.30

PODIUM DISCUSSION

Conference Outlook – The Universality of Human Rights is beyond Question?

Responsible Organisation:

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights

Chair: Michael Lysander Fremuth

University of Vienna; Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights

Michael O’Flaherty

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Erika de Wet

University of Graz

17.30

END OF CONFERENCE

VIENNA DECLARATION
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STRENGTHENING IMPERATIVES
30 YEARS AFTER

**UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna 1993
– Strengthening Imperatives 30 Years After**

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