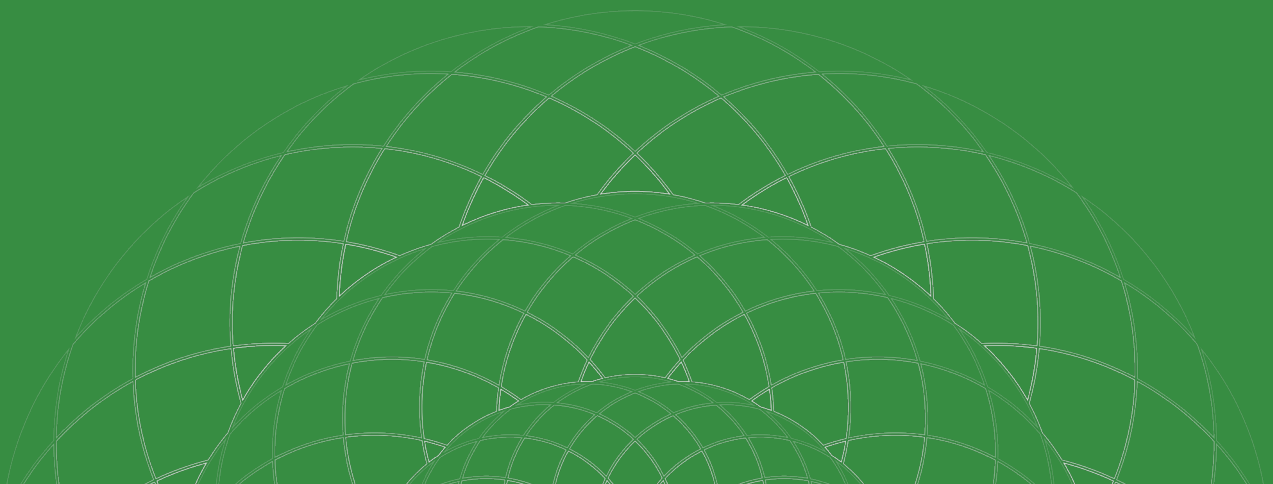




HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

Annual Report
2025-2026



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Human Rights Program @ Harvard Law

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Celebrating 60 Years of Human Rights Covenants

HRP's Ongoing Mission

While HRP marked its 40th anniversary last year, 2026 invites us to celebrate an even broader milestone in the history of human rights. Sixty years ago, the international community adopted the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), codifying in treaty form the rights proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and establishing the normative foundations that continue to guide human rights advocacy, scholarship, and accountability efforts today.

As we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the ICCPR and ICESCR and the tremendous advances these treaties have helped inspire around the world, the occasion also reminds us that the struggle for human rights and equal dignity remains an ongoing project, requiring renewed commitment amid a global landscape marked by democratic backsliding and growing challenges to the rule of law.

Against this backdrop, the Human Rights Program (HRP) at Harvard Law School (HLS) continues its vital mission of inspiring critical engagement with the global human rights project. Founded by Professor Emeritus Henry J. Steiner '55 in 1984 as one of the world's first academic centers for the study of human rights law, HRP remains as dedicated as ever to fostering cutting-edge legal scholarship and to informing developments in the field through impartial, innovative, and rigorous research.

Our Mission

The Human Rights Program seeks to inspire critical engagement with the human rights project and to inform developments in the field through impartial, innovative, and rigorous research.

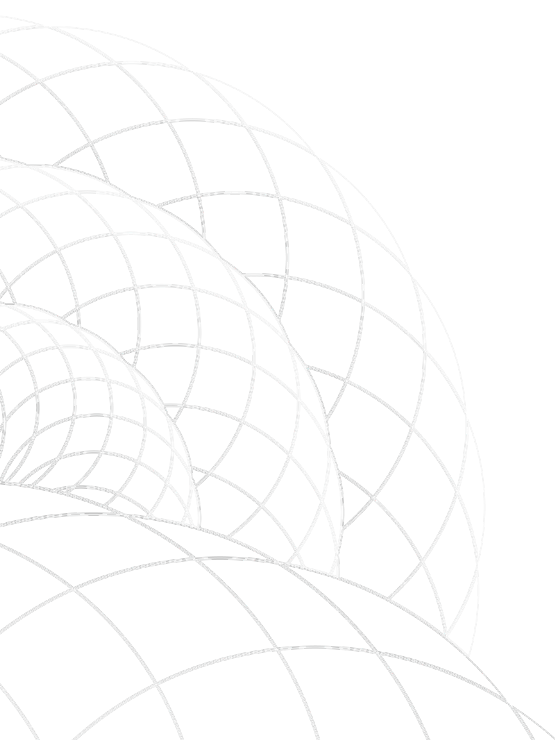
"The 60th anniversary of these foundational covenants is both a moment for reflection and a call to action," says Gerald L. Neuman, JD '80, Director of HRP and J. Sinclair Armstrong Professor of International, Foreign, and Comparative Law. "We must examine where human rights law has succeeded, but more importantly, we must think critically about how it can be improved to counter modern threats like democratic backsliding and authoritarian networks." A former member of the UN Human Rights Committee, Professor Neuman warns

that “in the current fever of populism, when international law is too easily dismissed,” it becomes even more critical to determine “collaborative partnerships between global legal experts and local advocates” to bridge international norms and grounded justice.

Embracing an ethos of collaboration and synergy, HRP is proud to be part of the larger human rights community at Harvard, working alongside faculty, clinics, fellows, graduate students, and research centers across the Law School and the wider University. These joint initiatives continually extend beyond our campus to include domestic and global human rights mechanisms and organizations worldwide. To bridge the gap between academia and practice, we organize conferences, public panels, and private workshops that invigorate dialogue among leading scholars and practitioners. We also continue to publish impactful human rights scholarship and offer fellowship opportunities to accelerate the careers of dedicated students.

Alluding to what a growing number of scholars have described as a ‘polycrisis’ of climate change, democratic backsliding, political instability, and geopolitical conflict, Dr. Abadir M. Ibrahim, HRP’s Associate Director, notes that “although the current wave of political unsettlement has not spared universities, institutions of knowledge remain indispensable in lending a steady hand to navigating the storm.” Just as it has during previous global crises, HRP continues to provide vital spaces to think about the nature of these crises and to mobilize interdisciplinary academic input to fortify the resilience of the human rights movement.

In a world facing unprecedented crises, the importance of thoughtful reflection on how to protect and expand human rights cannot be overstated. Looking to the future, HRP remains unfaltering in its ambition, fostering critical thinking and inspiring progress toward equal dignity and solidarity in the years to come.



HRP Around the World

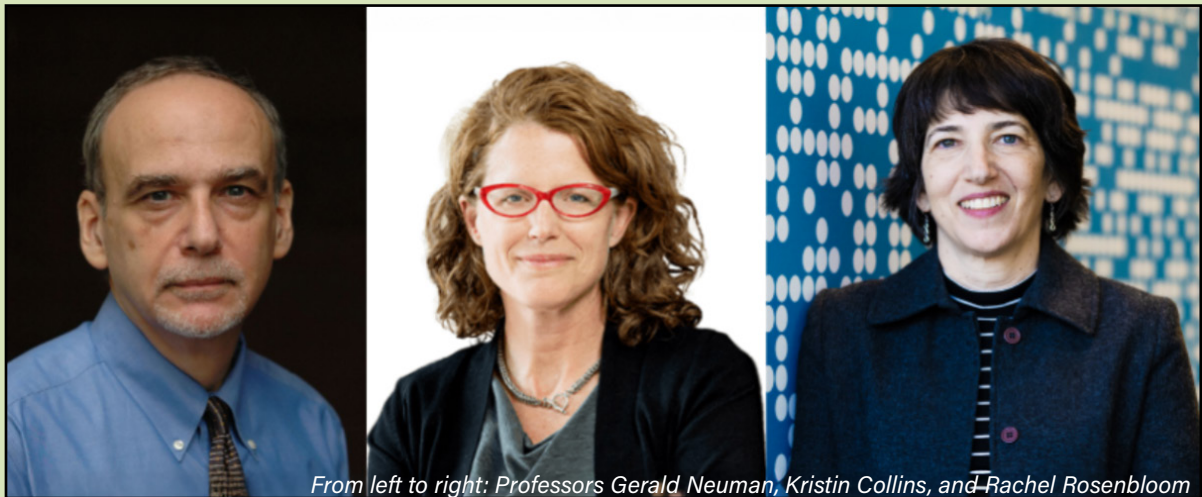
HRP student fellows, faculty, staff and visiting fellows work on projects that cross a variety of geographic regions. The map below displays the extent of HRP's global reach in 2025-2026. In addition to the geographically-focused work shown below, HRP is involved in many areas of work that cross borders and have global and comparative implications.



- Postgraduate and student fellow destinations
- HRP project focus areas
- Country of origin of staff, research assistants and visiting fellows

Birthright Citizenship at the Supreme Court

At the start of his immigration crackdown on the day of his inauguration, President Trump signed Executive Order No. 14,160, "Protecting the Meaning and Value of American Citizenship". The executive order purported to deny birthright citizenship to children born in the United States who lack a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident parent. This summer, the Supreme Court of the United States issued a decision striking down the order. In the year leading up to the much-anticipated Supreme Court decision, scholars and practitioners engaged with the legal challenges to Executive Order No. 14,160. Among them was HRP Director, Professor Gerald L. Neuman, who, alongside Professors Kristin Collins and Rachel Rosenbloom, filed an amicus brief with the Court in February 2026.



From left to right: Professors Gerald Neuman, Kristin Collins, and Rachel Rosenbloom

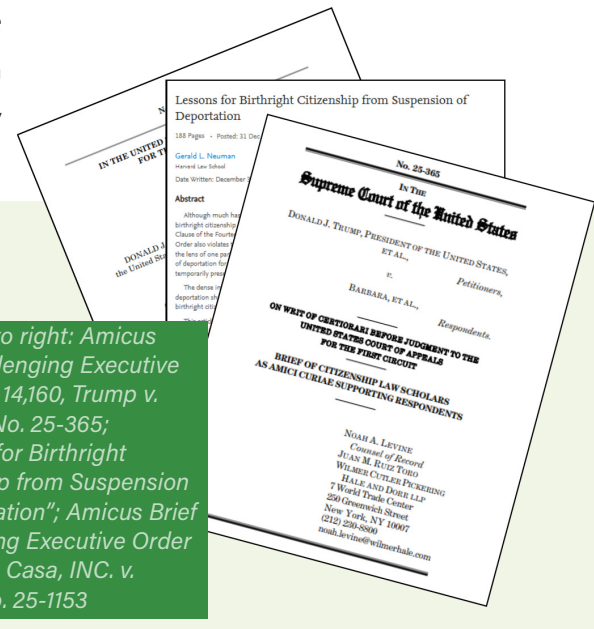
In the amicus brief, the professors argued that the executive order was not only unconstitutional under the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment but violated the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). The brief demonstrated that Section 1401(a) provided an independent basis for decision because Executive Order 14,160 could not repeal Congress's statutory guarantee. Specifically, Title 8 U.S.C. §1401(a) provides that "[a] person born in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof," shall be a "citizen[] of the United States at birth." While the majority of legal commentary had focused on the Citizenship Clause as grounds for the executive order's unconstitutionality, the *amici curiae* highlighted a crucial statutory basis for birthright citizenship.

The brief drew on the professors' scholarly expertise and considered the legislative histories of the Nationality Act of 1940 and the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 and their application in practice. The authors argued that the Executive Branch officials who drafted the statutory language and the legislators who enacted it did so with a clear understanding that they were codifying near-universal birthright citizenship, subject only to a few narrow, well-defined exceptions. They emphasized that neither the domicile nor the lawful presence of the parents was relevant. The brief concluded that Congress adopted this consensus meaning in the 1940 Act, and reinforced that consensus by recodifying the same provision in the 1952 Act.

In tandem with the amicus brief's legal arguments, Professor Neuman's broader research on the topic is featured in a December 2025 draft article titled, "Lessons for Birthright Citizenship from Suspension of Deportation." Here, Neuman addressed the statutory violation of the INA by examining the law and practice of suspension of deportation from 1940 into the 1950s, including cases drawn from previously unpublished documentation obtained from government files.

Neuman's study revealed how these documents demonstrate a repeated confirmation of the "shared understanding of Congress and the executive branch that children born in the United States to unlawfully present parents, and to parents whose presence was lawful but temporary, were citizens of the United States." The article concluded that this historical practice "contradicts revisionist theories" and confirms that the INA "decrees a broad rule of *jus soli* citizenship," offering an independent ground sufficient to invalidate the executive order.

From left to right: Amicus Brief Challenging Executive Order No. 14,160, *Trump v. Barbara*, No. 25-365; "Lessons for Birthright Citizenship from Suspension of Deportation"; Amicus Brief Challenging Executive Order No. 14,160, *Casa, INC. v. Trump*, No. 25-1153



The Supreme Court issued its 6–3 decision in *Trump v. Barbara* on June 30, 2026, striking down the executive order. Chief Justice Roberts, writing for the Court, stated that children born to parents unlawfully or temporarily present in the U.S. "are citizens at birth" as they "satisfy both elements of the Citizenship Clause." The majority for the ruling's constitutional holding proved narrower than expected, however. In his separate opinion, Justice Brett Kavanaugh concurred on the basis that the executive order violated the INA, but he offered a different interpretation of the Citizenship Clause and suggested that Congress could amend Section 1401(a) in the future to create further exceptions.

A Chapter Concludes

Celebrating Victor Madrigal-Borloz's Fellowship

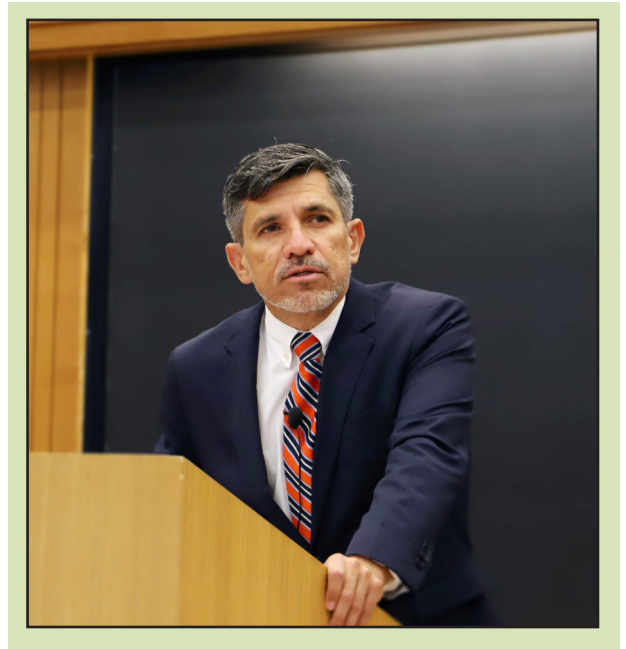
In December 2025, HRP bade farewell to Victor Madrigal-Borloz, who had been HRP Eleanor Roosevelt Senior Visiting Researcher since July 2019.

A distinguished Costa Rican jurist, Madrigal-Borloz brought a depth of expertise in international human rights law, leading to a range of work in global human rights advocacy and academic scholarship. From 2018 to 2023, Madrigal-Borloz served as the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (IE SOGI).

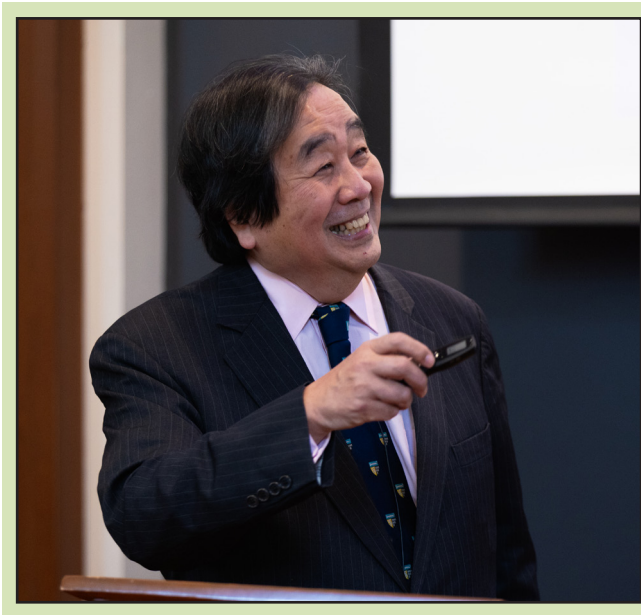
During his tenure as a UN Independent Expert, HRP was his academic home, where research projects, workshops, publications, and presentations provided critical analytical underpinnings for his work. Madrigal-Borloz authored 12 thematic reports, which were presented to the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council, with the assistance of several dozen HLS students.

Throughout nearly six years of engagement as a visiting researcher, Madrigal-Borloz enriched the intellectual life of the Harvard community and facilitated a dynamic cross-cultivation of ideas among HRP and HLS faculty, fellows, staff, and students. His contributions included co-organizing HRP's inaugural indirect discrimination series, which resulted in specialized workshops on indirect discrimination concerning SOGI and religion, and other academic publications. Driven by a spirit of community engagement, he closely worked with the International Human Rights Clinic and HLS Advocates for Human Rights, and collaborated with other Harvard centers, including the Carr-Ryan Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard Kennedy School and Religion and Public Life at the Harvard Divinity School.

Madrigal-Borloz was also appointed as a Lecturer on Law at HLS, a role in which he continues to enrich student learning by teaching a reading group on the Inter-American System for the protection of human rights. Moving forward, we proudly continue to support Madrigal-Borloz's work to dismantle matrices of oppression and champion the fundamental dignity of all persons.



Human Rights Under Stress in the Age of AI



The rapid advancement in Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies presents a complex dichotomy, introducing both novel opportunities to promote and unprecedented threats to human rights. Private sector actors, non-profits, and states have increasingly invested in scaling AI-based applications across various domains, including healthcare, housing, education, banking, humanitarian aid delivery, and human rights investigations and case processing. These developments could significantly advance the protection and fulfillment of human rights globally. Yet, AI systems could also amplify existing human rights violations, particularly in light of the global rise of authoritarianism and tech oligarchies.

These complex intersections of technology and human rights were the focus of a November 13 event, where HRP hosted Harold Hongju Koh '80, Sterling Professor of International Law and former Dean (2004–2009) of Yale Law School, for a discussion titled “Human Rights Under Stress in the Age of AI.” A leading expert in public and private international law, national security law, and human rights, Koh previously served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.

The presentation highlighted the novel challenges and potential benefits AI presents for the human rights regime, and how lawmakers and regulators should anticipate and address them. Notably, Koh described how AI could be used as a “gigantic megaphone” for authoritarian actors to disseminate misinformation, tighten surveillance, and seek retribution against perceived opponents. Although international human rights law provides a framework to address rights violated by AI, Koh emphasized that states must first agree to common principles. He warned, however, that this task is undermined by attacks on foundational human rights principles, including truth, accountability, and democratic governance.

Another daunting reality of AI Development, he stressed, is the proliferation and deployment of lethal autonomous weapons systems. Contextualizing this shift, he categorized AI as the “third great revolution in warfare,” following gunpowder and nuclear weapons. He pointed to the Russia-Ukraine war, noting how drones, loitering munitions, deepfakes, and algorithmic surveillance have functioned as instrumental

military tools. Koh warned that if AI makes war the cheapest option, we face the looming threat of perpetual conflict.



In a time where human rights [are] under stress in an age of AI, this is still the only faith we share. We have to do our best to maintain it.



Koh concluded his lecture by reaffirming four core principles that he argued should guide U.S. human rights policy. He underscored the imperative to uphold truth, establish normative legal standards that ensure accountability for the past, promote human rights in the present, and build democracy in the future.

He reflected on these principles by recounting an experience during his tenure as Assistant Secretary of State when he was tasked with swearing in three new judges. Strikingly, instead of a traditional religious text, the judges requested to be sworn in on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the European Convention on Human Rights. Koh quoted one of the judges, “In this troubled world, this is the only faith we share.” Connecting this sentiment to the current moment, he added, “And so, I think that remains true. In a time where human rights is under stress in an age of AI, this is still the only faith we share. We have to do our best to maintain it.”



From left to right: Professors Gerald Neuman (moderator) and Harold Hongju Koh

Beyond the Impasse

Continuing the Push for Climate Justice

As the global climate crisis continues to intensify, along with the scale and severity of its human impacts, the international community remains at an impasse, with some states even reversing course on previously established goals. Against this backdrop of inaction and backsliding, HRP has facilitated conversations, collaborations, and research within the emerging field of international climate law over the last couple of years.

Building on this foundation, Abadir M. Ibrahim, Associate Director of HRP, partnered with Angela Hefti, Assistant Professor at the Florida International University College of Law and former HRP Visiting Researcher, to co-author an article titled “Contributions of the African Human Rights System to International Climate Law”. Published in the Yale Journal of International Law, the article explores how the African regional legal framework can offer innovative legal solutions to the global climate crisis.

In the publication, Ibrahim and Hefti point out that the African human and peoples’ rights system is poised to make significant contributions to global climate jurisprudence. Following the climate advisory opinions by the International Court of Justice and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in July 2025, Africa’s human rights bodies are on the verge of issuing their own legal pronouncements. In arguing that the African



system holds immense potential for normative leadership in the areas of the right to a healthy climate and the recognition of the rights of nature, the article highlights the African system's recognition of collective rights, the broad availability of *actiones populares*, which allow individuals or groups to bring claims on behalf of the public interest, and the right to a healthy environment.

Ibrahim and Hefti also partnered with Salma Waheedi, Lecturer on Law and Executive Director of the Program on Law and Society in the Muslim World at Harvard Law School, to co-lead an interdisciplinary coalition of 16 scholars in the submission of an amicus brief before the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. The submission was filed as part of an advisory proceeding initiated by the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU) to clarify the obligations of African States under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Charter) in addressing climate change.

The amicus brief argues that the Court should explicitly recognize the right to a healthy climate, given that the right to a "general satisfactory environment" is already protected under the Charter. The brief explains that acknowledging the right to a healthy climate does not constitute an expansion of Charter rights, but rather a clarification of the full scope of existing state obligations.

Building upon this interpretation, the submission outlines a comprehensive framework of state duties that emerge from international and regional environmental jurisprudence. These include the obligation to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, regulate public and private actors, and ensure robust public access to information, participation, and effective remedies. Crucially, by emphasizing the transboundary nature of climate change, the brief invites the Court to articulate the specific legal duties borne by both high-emitting states and oil-producing countries. The *amici* also contend that states whose populations suffer due to climate impacts have an obligation to seek reparations from those responsible, including other states, to the extent they are themselves unable to provide effective remedies to affected communities.

The submission also advances a framework for recognizing the rights of nature within the African human rights system. Drawing on the Charter's text, its legislative history, and African constitutional and Indigenous legal traditions, the *amici* argue for a holistic approach in which duties owed to the environment give rise to corresponding rights held by nature. Furthermore, the submission highlights the importance of an intersectional approach. It frames climate harm not as an isolated environmental phenomenon, but as an exacerbator of historical, structural, and intersecting inequalities that disproportionately impact marginalized populations.

In addition to their submission to the African Court, Ibrahim, Waheedi and Hefti, submitted written comments to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. These comments were submitted in response to

the Commission's call for substantive inputs on the draft General Comment on Article 24 of the Charter. Once finalized, the General Comment will serve as an authoritative interpretation of this provision, providing binding normative guidance to member states on the scope and content of the right to a satisfactory, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.

Human Rights Practice Symposium

HRP continued its partnership with the Human Rights Entrepreneurs Clinic to welcome students and professors from the University of Ghana School of Law. Over the course of five days, symposium participants engaged in interactive lectures, field experiences, and critical discussions focusing on how business and human rights frameworks operate in practice.

Senior Clinical Fellow Emily Ray guided the cohort through a rigorous, multidisciplinary curriculum focused on corporate accountability and supply chain litigation. Bringing theory into practice, HLS alum and chocolate services entrepreneur Valerie Beck shared her expertise on the intricacies of ethical sourcing, before the cohort explored transparent sourcing firsthand on a site visit to Somerville's Taza Chocolate. To round out the experience, Tyler Giannini, Clinical Professor and Director of the Human Rights Entrepreneurs Clinic, led a critical analysis and simulation examining the intersection of business and human rights, social entrepreneurship, and climate change litigation.



Securing Women's Rights in Africa

Pathways to the AU Convention on Ending Violence Against Women



The 1981 African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights is a foundational document which established a legal and institutional framework for protecting and promoting human rights across the Continent. Adopted to reflect the needs of a post-independence Africa, and celebrated for including both individual and collective rights, the Charter nevertheless lacked strong institutional and normative structures needed to address specific women's rights violations.

On November 20, we were joined by Madame Bineta Diop, one of the continent's leading women's rights figures, who has dedicated her career to remedying these gaps. The founder and president of Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) and the former African Union (AU) Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security

(2014–2025), Madame Diop delivered a lecture on the pathways to the AU Convention on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls. Drawing on her personal experiences and her leadership in advancing gender equality in Africa and across the world, Madame Diop discussed the development of Africa's unique legal framework for women's rights and its gaps, and outlined the various efforts to fill those gaps over the previous decades.

Madame Diop detailed the advocacy and behind the scenes diplomacy that went into the 2003 adoption of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol). As one of the "world's most comprehensive and progressive women's rights instruments", she observed, the Protocol transformed the Charter's general obligations into gender-specific norms to acknowledge the structural oppression of women. She added that the Maputo Protocol included novel provisions, such as the protection of women's bodily autonomy and reproductive rights, which are particularly vulnerable in conflict zones. Remarkably, the Maputo Protocol experiences a near-universal commitment,

having been ratified by 46 of the 55 African Union member states.

Yet, she noted that the Maputo Protocol did not offer sufficient protections to fully address domestic and intimate partner violence. A challenge she identified as a pervasive issue on the Continent. Recognizing that these daily threats had been severely exacerbated by the lockdowns and isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic, the African women's rights movement sought to produce a new, more comprehensive treaty specifically addressing gender-based violence.

In February 2025, the movement secured the adoption of the African Union Convention on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls. The Convention, besides explicitly naming and recognizing femicide,

includes progressive provisions requiring states to enact and enforce laws combating all forms of violence in private and public spaces, as well as in cyberspace; and ensuring victim-centered approaches in the justice system. The Convention also includes the novel provision of positive masculinity, a concept that strategically mobilizes men as allies by engaging with them to "develop transformed mindsets, behaviors, and attitudes to protect the rights and empowerment of women and girls."

Madame Diop described the new Convention as undeniable proof that women's rights work in Africa is dynamically progressing, while cautioning that its transformative potential will remain unrealized without widespread ratification and implementation by member states. The Convention requires fifteen ratifications to come into effect, while only one member state, The Gambia, has formally ratified it so far.

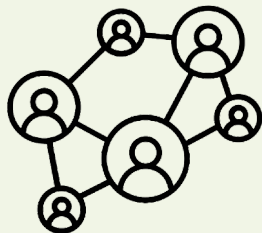


HRP on the Web - 2025/2026



76,000

new website users



53,759

social media followers



8,267

online event audience



3,966

email subscribers

Targeting the Bench

U.S. Sanctions Against the International Criminal Court

The past year has witnessed a series of measures by the executive branch of the U.S. government that are antagonistic towards international human rights norms and institutions. Most notable among these were the sanctions imposed against judges and prosecutors of the International Criminal Court (ICC). These sanctions have turned policy tools typically applied to the worst war criminals and dictators against the very human rights actors whose *raison d'être* is to hold those exact figures accountable.

On March 23, HRP convened a panel of experts, Professor of Practice Alex Whiting, Professor Naz Modirzadeh '02, founding director of the Program on International Law and Armed Conflict at Harvard Law, and Foley Hoag partner Andrew Loewenstein. Moderated by HRP Director and Professor Gerald Neuman, the panelists examined the U.S. sanctions on ICC personnel, focusing primarily on their impact on institutions, individual officials, and their families.

Following an introduction by Professor Neuman outlining the contours of the subject, Professor Whiting began the panel's remarks by providing a baseline for the relationship between the U.S. and the ICC. He noted that the U.S. has never been wholly supportive of the court, having refused to join it after playing a key role in its establishment. Although it has often exhibited hostility towards the Court when its actions threaten to scrutinize U.S. personnel or close allies, it also has a track record of supporting its mandate and investigations, as well as that of previous international tribunals, when such action aligns with its interests.



Detailing the recent Executive Order 14203, which authorized sanctions against ICC officials involved in investigating U.S. or Israeli nationals, Whiting noted that “this is an escalation, and it’s a dramatic one.” Since issuing the executive order last year, the second Trump administration has escalated its sanctions regime to target a minimum of 11 ICC officials, notably ensnaring nine judges alongside the chief prosecutor. Subsequent to the event, Secretary of State Marco Rubio signaled an intent to escalate even further, announcing that the administration plans to dismantle the Court “brick by brick,” through an aggressive “whole-of-government” campaign.

Whiting situated the administration’s behavior as part of a broader, more alarming, trend of “moving away from international law.”



“The court doesn’t get the kind of financial, political, or diplomatic support from the world that it should and the response to the sanctions, in some ways, exemplifies that.”

Professor Modirzadeh, who is on the Board of Trustees of the International Crisis Group and briefs UN bodies including its principal organs, began by outlining the framework for the imposition of sanctions under international law. She pointed out that a United Nations Security Council resolution is the sole mechanism universally accepted by states for issuing internationally binding sanctions. The Council, however, has not authorized sanctions against the ICC, and she stressed that the chances of it doing so are extremely low. Modirzadeh explained that the U.S., therefore, relies on its domestic law to unilaterally impose sanctions, leveraging its unique position and influence within the global financial system.

Andrew Loewenstein, who represents a number of U.S.-based human rights organizations and scholars impacted by the ICC sanctions, described how Executive Order 14203 adversely impacts fundamental rights within the United States and outlined the potential legal responses available to impacted parties and the broader human rights community. He noted that the Executive Order purported to block “incredibly broad” sets of activities, including prohibitions on providing “funds, goods, or services” to ICC officials. He

explained that the prohibition can extend providing advice to designated individuals or the submission of evidence and amicus briefs to the Court or the Prosecutor's Office.

In response, several nonprofits and scholars brought constitutional challenges in federal courts, arguing that the restrictions violated First Amendment and due process rights. These legal actions, including the case brought by Loewenstein on behalf of two international criminal law professors, led to the issuance of a permanent injunction. "What we argued," Loewenstein noted, "and what the court ultimately agreed with, was that the application of the sanctions regime to U.S. persons violated the First Amendment."

Loewenstein pointed out that the February 2025 sanctions, as well as the judicial finding that they violated constitutional protections, were in many ways a repeat of a phenomenon from the first Trump administration. Although Loewenstein and other attorneys successfully challenged the application of the sanctions to U.S.-based individuals and entities and secured preliminary injunctions that allowed them to continue their pursuit of international justice through a myriad of interactions with the ICC, the second Trump administration "essentially re-instituted" the same restrictions.

“Here, you have a sanctions regime that is targeting the personal financial interests of judges and prosecutors ... And if that’s not antithetical to the rule of law, I don’t know what it is.”



Despite the successful challenges brought on behalf of specific clients, the broader sanctions remain in effect against the targeted ICC officials and the wider international community. Reflecting a sentiment expressed by some panelists and participants at the event, Loewenstein noted that if “a sanctions regime that is targeting the personal financial interests of judges and prosecutors ... [is] not antithetical to the rule of law, I don’t know what it is.”

HRP Fellowships

Extraordinary human rights advocates, scholars, and leaders in the human rights field have passed through HRP, be it as students, visiting fellows, professors, or staff members. HRP facilitates the emergence and connection of human rights leaders across generations and creates opportunities for community building and intellectual exchange by, among other things, providing fellowships to students, alumni, and advocates who have demonstrated commitment to the field of human rights. Besides supporting leaders, scholars, and advocates, fellowships are also designed to advance human rights practice and scholarship more broadly.

Since its establishment, HRP has been dedicated to cultivating the next generation of human rights leaders by providing students with foundational career support. Winter and Summer Fellowships allow HLS students to explore different fields of practice, hone their skills, and gain practical experience on their path of choice. Post-graduate Fellowships act as a critical launching pad for the careers of recent HLS graduates, offering them a year of hands-on experience at a human rights organization. Engaging in over 1,000 internships in 122 countries, HRP's fellowships span across the globe, demonstrating students' commitment to international human rights.

The HRP Visiting Fellows Program gives individuals with a demonstrated commitment to human rights an opportunity to engage with the human rights community at HLS, enrich HLS events and conferences, and engage in research that advances human rights knowledge. HRP visiting fellows, many of whom are established scholars and leaders in their field, provide opportunities for students and faculty to benefit from their diverse experiences and perspectives and connect with a global cohort of human rights actors. HRP first welcomed visiting fellows in 1986, and since then, more than 240 scholars and advocates from 76 countries have participated, representing a broad range of human rights work and bringing with them a stunning range of experiences and perspectives to the HRP community.

Winter 2025 Fellowships

Meghna Adhikari JD '27 interned at the Justice and Rights Institute (JuRI) where she worked on accountability for human rights violations against protestors in the aftermath of the Gen-Z movement in Nepal.

Jaskaran Dhillon JD '27 conducted research in Delhi and Chandigarh, India, related to the Indian judiciary's response to state-sanctioned violence against Sikhs in the 1980s and 1990s.

Zarina Iman JD '27 completed a clinical placement with the Italian Coalition for Civil Liberties and Rights (CILD), where she collaborated on projects focused on detention conditions and oversight throughout

the European Union, and access to justice within the European human rights system.

Summer 2026 Fellowships

Brooke Beyer JD'28 will intern with the British Institute for International Comparative Law (BIICL), where she will conduct substantive legal research on comparative legal issues regarding human rights, sustainable supply chains, and the rule of law.

Ideal Dowling JD'27 will intern with Partners in Justice International (PJI), an organization that supports local practitioners who are pursuing accountability for victims of crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide.

HRP Fellowships

Alana Mitias JD'28 will intern with Corporate Accountability Lab (CAL), where she will assist in holding transnational corporations legally accountable in the U.S. for human rights violations committed abroad.

Post-Graduate Fellowships

2024-2025 Henigson Fellow Camila Castellanos Forero LLM '25 worked with the International Center for Transitional Justice in The Gambia. In this role, she supported the implementation of the Truth, Reconciliation, and Reparations Commission, provided technical expertise on reparations, contributed to the establishment of a hybrid transitional court to prosecute those responsible for gross human rights violations during the Yahya Jammeh regime, and promoted gender-sensitive approaches to accountability

2024-2025 Henigson Fellow Isabella Leal Aguilar LLM '25 worked with Casa Nicolás in Mexico, where she worked towards strengthening legal protections for the migrant community in northern Mexico by addressing systemic human rights violations,

identifying abuse patterns, and advocating for policy reforms that uphold migrant rights in Mexico.

2025-2026 Henigson Fellow Namashya Karuna Arachchige LLM '26 is working with the Law & Society Trust (LST) to advance the rights of women affected by microfinance in Sri Lanka by advocating for regulatory practices that protect vulnerable borrowers.

2025-2026 Henigson Fellow Tupalishe Mulwafu LLM'26 is working with The Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU) on extractive sector accountability, engaging in a diverse set of activities, including cross-border advocacy, capacity building, and strategic litigation within the African regional human rights system.



Advocating for the “Free Grandmothers”



The Malaya Lolas (“Free Grandmothers”) are well-acquainted with the long and winding road of human rights advocacy.

Now women in their nineties, they are survivors of the “comfort women” system in the Philippines, a form of sexual slavery instituted by the Imperial Japanese Army during World War II. Across the Asia-Pacific region, over 100,000 women and girls experienced sexual violence, torture, and other inhumane conditions, causing them to endure a lifetime of psychological, social, and economic hardship, including PTSD, reproductive damage, and community ostracization.

While the post-WWII prosecutions examined some Japanese war crimes, the implementation of systematic sexual slavery was overlooked, and survivors did not receive any compensation. Only in the 1990s, nearly fifty years after the mass atrocities, did strategic litigation advocating for the recognition of survivors begin to reach courts across the region. Finally, in 2023, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (“CEDAW Committee”) recognized the Malaya Lolas’ experiences of gender-based discrimination due to this conflict-related sexual violence and recommended that the Philippine government provide full reparations.

Although more than 80 years have passed since these atrocities, the Malaya Lolas continue their path toward justice. Tasked with pursuing accountability and reparations, Sabrina Ochoa²⁴ joined this journey during her 2024-2025 Henigson Fellowship at CenterLaw Philippines.

As a foreign-trained lawyer, Sabrina learned the importance of engaging in advocacy through interconnected legal, social, and policy avenues. Sabrina started her fellowship by drafting and eventually publishing a third-party stakeholder report for the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, highlighting how the failure to provide reparations for the Malaya Lolas constitutes a violation of key international obligations, including equality, non-discrimination, social security, and health rights. The second leg of Sabrina’s fellowship was marked by an uptick in advocacy work as various government agencies suddenly engaged with CenterLaw’s proposals—ending two years of inertia by the Philippine government in response to the 2023 UN CEDAW Committee decision. In March 2025, the Philippines’ Commission on Human Rights organized an inter-agency forum where CenterLaw and other coalition partners offered recommendations. There, Sabrina presented a paper proposing a comprehensive reparations scheme. Her paper detailed the lack of government measures and provided an international legal analysis of the human rights obligations implicated by the

government's inaction.

To fulfill the CEDAW Committee's 2023 recommendation for historical memorialization, Sabrina partnered with the Department of Education's Bureau of Learning Resources and various coalition partners to write a brief that chronicled the Lolás' heavily contested legal battles against both the Japanese and Philippine governments to secure formal apologies and state-sponsored reparations. The brief was integrated into a larger initiative to devise and implement a nationwide curriculum aiming to educate 6th and 10th graders on the history of the Lolás and other survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in the Philippines.

Some of Sabrina's notable outputs at CenterLaw included widening the organization's ability to conduct international human rights advocacy. She proactively undertook CenterLaw's application to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for consultative status, which would allow CenterLaw to participate directly in UN Human Rights Council sessions. Prompted by cuts to American foreign aid funding, she also submitted various domestic and international grant proposals to secure alternative backing.

Sabrina not only conducted legal advocacy for the historical and ongoing matter of the Malaya Lolás, but also worked on contemporary issues in the Philippines involving the human rights violations of a past populist leader, Rodrigo Duterte. Sabrina ran workshops to document human rights abuses and process victim applications for the ICC's Victims Participation and Reparations Section. To streamline this massive effort, Sabrina created a Case Management System Guide, which included a trauma-informed protocol for lawyers and volunteer paralegals to properly add to the documentation effort. Sabrina also developed an ICC Case Digest Protocol to help law students and partners systematically map ICC jurisprudence on issues relevant to the Duterte case.



I remain hopeful of the network effects of raising awareness of this painful part of history and maintaining general social interest in honoring the Lolás' legacy.

Throughout her fellowship, Sabrina honed her legal analysis and strategic litigation skills including by questioning the role of litigation in reparations work—examining not only its potential benefits but also its limitations, symbolic importance, and associated risks. Her time in the Philippines led her to appreciate the necessity of contextualizing human rights norms within local attitudes on gender, state violence, and societal discrimination. Beyond formal initiatives, Sabrina learned the importance of building relationships and coalitions to create a sustainable foundation for diverse, collaborative advocacy projects.

From Colombia to the Gambia

Redefining Expertise in Transitional Justice

For nearly 22 years, The Gambia was under the dictatorship of Yahya Jammeh whose regime was marked by serious human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, sexual violence, arbitrary detention, and torture. After Jammeh's unexpected defeat in The Gambia's 2016 Presidential election and subsequent exile, the country was left to dismantle the legacies of his authoritarian regime by reinstituting democratic processes and reckoning with the legacies of his atrocities. Given the breadth of the atrocities which took place over the course of two decades, the political transition in The Gambia required transitional justice mechanisms, and so its Truth, Reconciliation, and Reparations Commission (TRRC) emerged in 2018.

Following the conclusion of the TRRC's investigations, the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), the host organization of 2025-2026 Henigson Fellow Camila Castellanos Forero, LL.M. '25, was determined to directly support and accompany the implementation of the TRRC's recommendations across all key pillars of transitional justice. Camila's placement on the team represented a perfect alignment of interest and opportunity. As a



Colombian-trained attorney, she brought critical experience from her home country's post-FARC transitional justice framework, while the fellowship enabled her to expand her horizons and strengthen her comparative legal focus on the design and implementation of transitional justice mechanisms.

Upon her arrival, Camila immediately confronted one of the defining challenges of modern human rights and humanitarian work. After a USAID "Stop Work Order" significantly reduced her host organization's project portfolio in The Gambia, she was forced to pivot. Demonstrating remarkable adaptability, she initiated a technical deployment which allowed her to work across the ICTJ, the Post-TRRC Unit of the Ministry of Justice, and the Special Prosecutor's Office, an independent body established in 2024 to investigate and prosecute serious human rights violations and crimes committed under Yahya Jammeh's regime in line with the TRRC's recommendations.

At ICTJ, where she represented the program in high-level stakeholder engagements within The Gambia, Camila provided technical expertise on reparations while advancing a gender-sensitive, victim-centered approach to transitional justice. She conducted nationwide outreach tours and consulted with victims across

the country to produce strategic assessment reports designed to provide actionable feedback to the Reparation Commission on its governance, transparency, and victim-centeredness, thereby supporting the sustainability of The Gambia's ongoing transitional justice process. Grounded in this work, Camila developed a novel "Victim's Burnout Conceptual Framework" to analyze and mitigate victim exhaustion and disengagement during protracted transitional justice mechanisms.

Her proactive deployment to the Ministry of Justice's Post-TRRC Unit became one of the most substantive aspects of her fellowship. Eventually invited by the Special Advisor on Transitional Justice in the Gambia's Ministry of Justice to assume a core managerial role within the Unit, Camila drafted foundational blueprints for resource mobilization, designed standard operating procedures, and introduced AI-integration modules for legal workflows. Through this mandate, she also provided strategic and technical support to the Special Prosecutor's Office, contributing to the formulation of internal prosecutorial frameworks.

Pursuing my project as a Harvard Human Rights Henigson Fellow has required more than just legal experience; it has demanded a "philosophical" shift and a rigorous deconstruction of my own assumptions as a practitioner from the Global South.

Beyond her institutional outputs, Camila's fellowship was profoundly shaped by the challenge of navigating the complex dynamics of international development work. Observing that the title of "international expert" can sometimes overshadow local voices, she recognized that genuine national ownership is essential to a successful transitional justice process. Consequently, Camila deliberately stepped back during regional sessions, positioning herself as a silent learner to ensure the process respected the victims' linguistic and cultural agency. The fellowship also broadened her perspective on the field's structural challenges, leaving her with a sharpened understanding of how historical legacies and donor dependencies can inadvertently dictate national agendas.



HRP Events

Every year, HRP hosts and co-sponsors lectures, panels, workshops, conferences, and other convenings that explore timely human rights issues and doctrinal debates. Ranging from keynote lectures delivered to large, sometimes global audiences to small, informal coffee chats where students gain insights into diverse human rights career pathways, these events serve to bridge theory and practice and provide co-curricular learning and experience-sharing opportunities. Events include collaborative workshops that enable practitioners and scholars to address complex challenges or develop new ideas, as well as book launches at which published works are presented, discussed, and rigorously examined.

Whether building consensus on important issues or inviting critical debates, HRP events and activities aim to enrich the intellectual life of the law school and contribute to the external human rights movement. These events are often organized and promoted in partnership with student organizations, such as the Harvard Human Rights Journal and HLS Advocates for Human Rights; other research centers and programs; and intergovernmental organizations. The following selection from the 2025–2026 academic year highlights both HRP-sponsored events and the external engagements of its faculty, fellows, and researchers.

This webinar convened legal experts, grassroots activists, journalists, and human rights defenders to unpack the proposed amendments to Ethiopia's CSO Proclamation and explore how similar laws are being used across the continent to silence dissent and restrict democratic participation.



Leading expert, litigator, and advocate within the African human rights system Ibrahima Kane shared insights on conducting human rights work in the context of state fragility and proposed solutions tailored to the Sahel that go beyond mere crisis management or short-term security responses.

HRP hosted a book event on *Latin American International Law in the Twenty-First Century*, which received the 2025 Edited Volume Book of the Year Award from the American Branch of the International Law Association (ABILA). The event delved into specific advancements in the fields of human rights, indigenous peoples' rights, transitional justice, and climate justice.



HRP Events

Global Human Rights in a Multipolar World

Tuesday, October 21
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm EST
WCC 1023

Lunch will be provided!

George Katrougalos
UN Independent Expert on a Democratic and Equitable International Order

Moderator:
Salma Waheedi

HRP
HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

PROGRAM ON LAW & SOCIETY
IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

Moderated by Salma Waheedi, George Katrougalos examined the limits and potential of human rights regimes, the future of UN-centered multilateralism, and the possibilities for reimagining a more equitable and democratic international order in an era of fragmentation.

HRP hosted an International Book Launch of *Behind Prison Walls: Unlocking A Safer South Africa*, where authors Edwin Cameron, Rebecca Gore, and Sohela Surajpal discussed key topics including the colonial and apartheid roots of incarceration, the rise of mass incarceration and sentencing inflation, comparative approaches to punishment in South Africa and the United States, the role of prison oversight, and the importance of prison reform.

Edwin Cameron
Rebecca Gore and Sohela Surajpal

BEHIND PRISON WALLS
Unlocking A Safer South Africa

Justice Ewin Cameron
Sohela Surajpal
Rebecca Gore

International Book Launch

Tuesday, October 28th
12:15 to 1:15 PM EST
This is a Zoom event

HRP
HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

HARVARD LAW ASSOCIATION

Book Talk with Eric Heinze

COMING CLEAN
The Rise of Critical Theory and the Future of the Left

Thursday, Oct. 30
12:15 - 1:15 PM
Pound Hall 100

Lunch will be provided

Moderated by:
Abadir M. Ibrahim

ERIC HEINZE

HLS DEMS

HRP
HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

HRP hosted a lively discussion with Eric Heinze, featuring his recently published book *Coming Clean: The Rise of Critical Theory and the Future of the Left*, where he challenges the notion of wokeness and explains why and how the left must change its memory politics if it is to claim any ethical high ground.

On November 13th, HRP hosted a discussion with Harold Hongju Koh for an exploration of the novel challenges and potential benefits AI presents for the human rights regime, the erosion of regulations and protections against AI, and how law and regulators should anticipate and address them. Koh highlighted that, compounded by the global rise of authoritarianism and tech oligarchies, human rights violations have intensified and evolved into new digital platforms.

Human Rights Under Stress in the Age of AI

NOV. 13TH | 12:15 PM EST
HAUSER HALL 102 | ZOOM

Lunch will be provided

Harold Hongju Koh
Moderator:
Gerald Neuman

U.S. ATTORNEY

HRP
HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

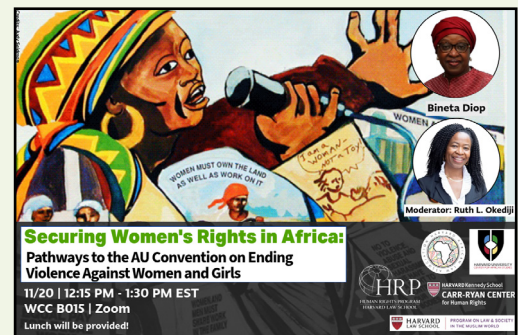
HARVARD Kennedy School
CARR-RYAN CENTER
for Human Rights

HRP Events



On November 18th, Tanya Greene, Director of the U.S. Program at Human Rights Watch, explored how current policy shifts are impacting fundamental human rights and reflected on the evolving landscape of human rights in the U.S.

Moderated by Ruth L. Okediji, Madame Bineta Diop reflected on Africa's unique women's rights legal regime, including the impact of the Maputo Protocol and current efforts that have led to the adoption of a new AU Convention on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls in February 2025.

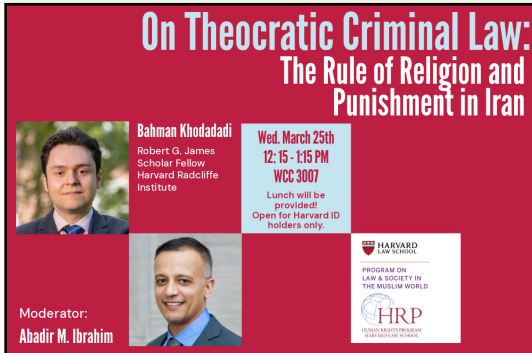


On January 30th, HRP hosted Justice Srinivasan Muralidhar, former Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court, and Professor Sugata Bose to examine whether the Constitution of India—and the Supreme Court it created—has lived up to its promise of protecting liberty, equality, fraternity, and dignity, while effectively checking majoritarian impulses and the excesses of state power.

HRP convened Alex Whiting, Andrew Loewenstein, and Naz K. Modirzadeh to examine the U.S. sanctions on ICC personnel, focusing primarily on their impact on institutions, individual officials, and their families.



HRP Events



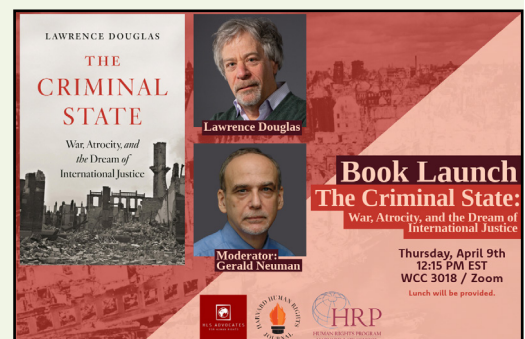
Moderated by Abadir M. Ibrahim, Bahman Khodadadi discussed his recent book *On Theocratic Criminal Law: The Rule of Religion and Punishment in Iran*, which explores the roots and structures of the criminal law system of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Moderated by Gerald Neuman, Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Viviana Krsticevic, and Victor Madrigal-Borloz discussed the current challenges facing the UN human rights system and the possible pathways for its future development.



Moderated by Aminta Ossom, Kelly M. Fay Rodríguez and Jeff Vogt examined how advocates are adapting their strategies to address forced labor, supply chain abuses, and new forms of algorithmic management.

HRP hosted a book launch for Lawrence Douglas' *Criminal State: War, Atrocity, and the Dream of International Justice*. The event discussed how the Nuremberg trials challenged centuries of thought that shielded sovereigns from legal scrutiny, and analyzed Nuremberg's failure to establish a lasting framework for regulating state aggression through criminal accountability.



HRP Events



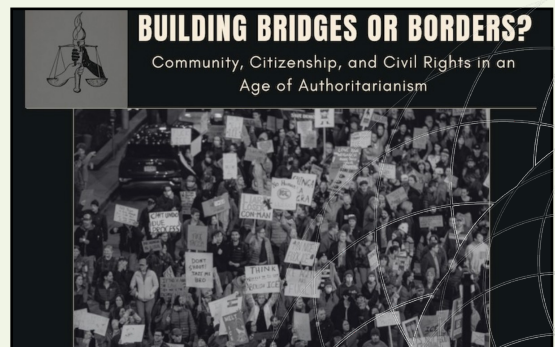
This year, the 14th Annual Roma Conference examined Romani histories and realities with the aim of informing more equitable futures for Romani children, youth, and future generations.

Moderated by Beatrice Lindstrom, HRP's book event featured Margareta Matache discussing her work, *The Permanence of Anti-Roma Racism: (Un)uttered Sentences*, where she situates anti-Roma racism within historical contexts and global scholarship while exploring its manifestations and interconnectedness with other systems of oppression.



HRP hosted an event—which builds on Federico Fabbrini's book, *The EU Constitution in Time of War: Legal Responses to Russia's Aggression Against Ukraine*—to explore the constitutional consequences of the return of war in Europe from a comparative and transatlantic perspective. The topics of the book were examined by a panel of leading scholars with diverse expertise, contextualizing changes in EU integration in light of broader transformations in international law, human rights enforcement and geo-economic competition.

Harvard CR-CL hosted its 60th Anniversary Symposium, themed "Building Bridges or Borders? Community, Citizenship, and Civil Rights in an Age of Authoritarianism," to respond to the state's rapidly accelerating violations of the civil rights and civil liberties of non-citizens and U.S. citizens alike.



HRP Events



HRP hosted a lecture-style event with Madhav Khosla for an in-depth exploration of the role of courts in supplying legal reasons that underwrite transitions away from democracy, situated within a broader examination of how law constitutes autocratization and how authoritarian legal orders develop persuasive justificatory logics.

Nariman Salem Hame moderated a discussion with Alex Whiting and Ioannis Kalpouzos to examine universal jurisdiction cases, corporate accountability, the future of international criminal law, and the role of international tribunals.



Balakrishnan Rajagopal, the current UN Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing, reflected on his concluding mandate to advance housing as a critical component of the “right to an adequate standard of living” (Article 11) in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

HRP Publications

As a center for human rights scholarship, HRP supports and produces a diverse range of publications, including books, book chapters, law journal articles, reports, and working papers. While some publications emerge from the work of scholars and visiting fellows who take time from their regular professional responsibilities for a singular focus on a writing project, many come out of crosscutting collaborations among faculty, fellows, staff, and students from numerous disciplines and regions. Some publications emerge from conversations on the sidelines of international conferences and roundtables; others are the planned outcomes of these gatherings. Though publications may be theoretical or practice-oriented, many bridge theory and practice to shape scholarly discourse, nurture thought leadership, and provide a platform for original and challenging ideas. Ultimately, one thing that unites all HRP publications is their commitment to bring knowledge to the service of human rights and equal dignity.

Books

Abadir M. Ibrahim, Jonathan Liljeblad, et al., *Indigenous Theories of International Law* (Forthcoming 2027).

Sanzhuan Guo, Marinella Marmo & Mary Crock, eds., *Deportation of Non-Citizens: International Law and Global State Practice* (Forthcoming).

Jonathan Liljeblad et al, eds., *Disciplinary Frontiers of Human Rights in Higher Education* (Forthcoming 2026).

Journal Articles & Book Chapters

Abadir M. Ibrahim & Angela Hefti, *Contributions of the African Human Rights System to International Climate Law*, 51 Yale J. Int'l L. 96 (2026).

Abadir M. Ibrahim, Jonathan Liljeblad & Sanzhuan Guo, eds., *How Far is Far? The Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union Treaty and Indigenous Cultural Rights in Climate Migration* (Forthcoming).

Sanzhuan Guo & Jessica Genauer, *Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union Treaty: Climate-Induced Migration and Security*, 41 Rev. Eur. Migr. Int. 121 (2025).

Sanzhuan Guo, China: Citizenship (Nationality) and Immigration Law, in *Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Asian Law* (Sarah Biddulph & Kathryn Taylor eds., forthcoming 2027).

Sanzhuan Guo, Conflict and Statelessness: A Case Study of Descendants of the KMT Secret Army in Thailand, in *Statelessness in Asia* (Michelle Foster,

Jaclyn Neo and Christoph Sperfeldt eds., 2024).

Sanzhuan Guo, *A Critical Review of Chinese Law on (Mass) Expulsion of Aliens through a Lens of International Law*, 34 Griffith L. Rev. 319 (2025).

Sanzhuan Guo, Expulsion of Non-nationals from China, in *Deportation of Non-Citizens: International Law and Global State Practice* (Sandra Guo, Marinella Marmo & Mary Crock eds., Forthcoming).

Gerald L. Neuman, *The Afterlife of "Title 42": Autopsy and Reformation*, 33 Tul. J. Int'l & Comp. L. 329 (2025).

Gerald L. Neuman, Deportation Innovations of the New Trump Administration in *Deportation of Non-Citizens: International Law and Global State Practice* (Sanzhuan Guo, Marinella Marmo & Mary Crock, eds., Forthcoming).

Gerald L. Neuman, *State Executive Impeachment – We Need to Know More*, Ky. L.J. Online (2025).

Gerald L. Neuman, The United States Will Need International Law, in *America Unfinished 250 Years of Law and Governance* (Alexandra Natapoff and Guy-Uriel E. Charles eds., 2026).

Jonathan Liljeblad, *Clarifying Indigenous Approaches to Ecocide*, 14 Transnat'l Env'tl. L. 659 (2025).

Jonathan Liljeblad, Constitutional Rights in Myanmar: False Liberalism & a Dissonance Over Rights, in *Asian Comparative Constitutional Law, Vol. 4* (Ngoc Son Bui, Mara Malagodi, & Christopher Michael Roberts eds., Forthcoming 2026).

HRP Publications

Jonathan Liljeblad & Hsu Myat Noe Htet, *The Status of Indigenous Rights Movements in Myanmar's Current Conflict*, 27 Aust. J. Asian L. 61 (2026).

Opinion Pieces

Camila Castellanos, *Catatumbo: Caught Between Violence and the Call for Peace*, Harvard Human Rights Reflections (2025).

Hajer Gueldich, *African Perspectives on International Climate Change Law – Challenges and Opportunities for Justice*, Harvard Human Rights Reflections (2025).

Abadir M. Ibrahim & Hilina Berhanu Degefa, *Ethiopia's 2026 Elections: An Autopsy of a Failed Transition to Democracy*, ACCORD Conflict & Resilience Monitor (2026).

Nariman Salem Hame, *Fragmented Justice: Accountability for ISIS' Atrocities against Yazidis*, Harvard Human Rights Reflections (2026).

Rosemary Karoro, *From Mandate to Monument: Bineta Diop and Africa's Unstoppable March to End Violence Against Women*, Harvard Human Rights Reflections (2026).

Nina Nedrebo, *Fifty Years in Exile: Human Rights and the Forgotten Crisis in Western Sahara*, Harvard Human Rights Reflections (2025).

Gerald L. Neuman & Abadir M. Ibrahim, *The Turn toward Authoritarianism: A Detour or a Derailment?*, in Harv. L. Sch. Hum. Rts. Program 40th Anniversary Edition 37 (2025).

Pedi Obani, *Climate Change, Women's Rights and National Action Plans in Africa*, Harvard Human Rights Reflections (2025).

Yusra Suedi, *'See you in Court': Ramifications of Climate Change Litigation before the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights*, Harvard Human Rights Reflections (2025).

Reports

Sanzhuan Guo, ILA Comm. on Int'l Migration & Int'l Law, *Interim Report: The Right to Enter* (Int'l L. Ass'n, Athens Conf. 2024)

Sanzhuan Guo & Mary Anne Kenny, Australia Country

Review, in Int'l Law Ass'n Comm. on Int'l Migration & Int'l Law, *Interim Report on the Right to Stay and the Rights While Staying* (2026; online).

Sanzhuan Guo et al., Int'l Law Ass'n Comm. on Int'l Migration & Int'l Law, *Interim Report on the Right to Stay and Rights While Staying* (2026; online).

Sanzhuan Guo, China Country Review, in Int'l Law Ass'n Comm. on Int'l Migration & Int'l Law, *Interim Report on the Right to Stay and the Rights While Staying, pt. I* (2026; online).

Submissions

Abadir M. Ibrahim et al., *Amicus Curiae Brief, Request for Advisory Opinion No. 001 of 2025, In re Obligations of States with Respect to the Climate Crisis*, Afr. Ct. on Hum. & Peoples' Rts. (2026).

Gerald L. Neuman, Kristin A. Collins & Rachel E. Rosenbloom, *Amicus Brief Challenging Executive Order No. 14,160, Trump v. Barbara*, No. 25-365 (U.S. 2026).

Gerald L. Neuman, *Written Contribution for Draft General Comment No. 38 on Article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, U.N. Hum. Rts. Comm. (2025).

Salma Waheedi, Abadir M. Ibrahim & Angela Hefti, *Submission to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights: Inputs on the Draft General Comments on Article 24 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights: Right to a Healthy Climate*, Afr. Comm'n on Hum. & Peoples' Rts. (June 2026).

Working Papers

Camilo Eduardo Umaña Hernández, *Pattern Analysis as a Tool for Human Rights Investigations: A Practice-Oriented Reflection* (May 2025).

Gerald L. Neuman, *Lessons for Birthright Citizenship from Suspension of Deportation*, (SSRN Paper No. 5991454, 2025).

Speaking and Other Engagements

Gerald Neuman

Adviser and discussant “Advisers and Members Consultative Group Meeting, Restatement of the Law, The Foreign Relations Law of The United States”, University of Pennsylvania School of Law, March 27, 2026.

Speaker “Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review 60th Anniversary Symposium”, Harvard Law School, April 17, 2026.

Abadir M. Ibrahim

Panelist, “Book Launch—The Permanence of Anti-Roma Racism: (Un)uttered Sentences by Margareta Matache”, FXB Center for Health & Human Rights, Harvard University, March 5, 2026.

Guest lecturer, “Regional Systems of Human Rights Protection”, St. Thomas University School of Law, January 26 to 31, 2026

Keynote Speaker, “*Abubeker Ahmed et al. v. Ethiopia*: Unpacking the Landmark ACHPR Ruling on the Freedom of Religion”, Ethiopian Muslim Legal Professionals Association Seminar Series, June 13, 2026

Coursework by HRP Members

Professor Neuman was on leave in the 2025 fall term and taught advanced classes on immigration law and human rights treaty bodies at HLS in the 2026 spring term. As in the previous years, HRP Senior Visiting Researcher Madrigal-Borloz taught a course on regional human rights law.

HRP Courses and Reading Groups, 2025-2026

Regional Human Rights Law: The Inter-American Perspective

(Victor Madrigal-Borloz, Spring 2026 Reading Group)

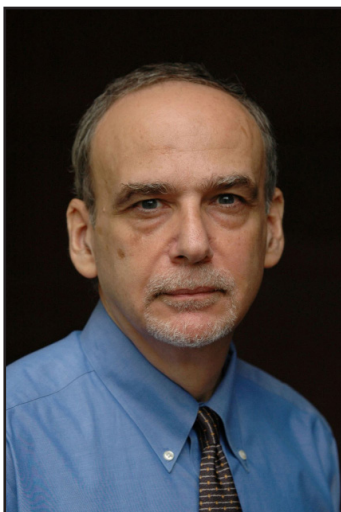
Human Rights in the UN Treaty Bodies

(Gerald Neuman, Spring 2026 Course)

Immigration Law

(Gerald Neuman, Spring 2026 Course)

Faculty and Staff 2025-2026



Gerald L. Neuman

**Director, Human Rights Program, and J. Sinclair Armstrong
Professor of International, Foreign, and Comparative Law**

Neuman teaches human rights, constitutional law, and immigration and nationality law. His current research focuses on international human rights law, immigration law, and rights of foreign nationals. He is the editor of "Human Rights in a Time of Populism" (Cambridge University Press, 2020), and co-author of the casebook "Human Rights" (with Louis Henkin et al., Foundation Press, 2009). Prior to joining HLS in 2006, he served on the faculties of the University of Pennsylvania Law School (1984-1992) and Columbia Law School (1992-2006). From 2011 to 2014, he was a member of the UN Human Rights Committee.



Abadir M. Ibrahim, J.S.D.

Associate Director, Human Rights Program

Ibrahim plays a substantive and managerial role in innovating and implementing academic activities, including the speaker series, conferences, and HRP's various fellowships. He is the co-editor of "Righting Human Rights through Legal Reform: Ethiopia's Contemporary Experience" (Addis Ababa Univ., 2020) and of "Between Failure and Redemption: The Future of the Ethiopian Social Contract" (Northwestern Univ., 2022). Before joining the HRP, he was the Head of the Secretariat for the Legal and Justice Affairs Advisory Council where he was engaged in pro-democracy and pro-rights justice sector reform work in Ethiopia. His current research analyzes the evolution of human rights as impacted by Africa's (post)colonial, religious and traditional heritages under the rubric of African approaches to human rights.



Valenia Bergier

Program Assistant, Human Rights Program

Bergier provides administrative support to the execution of HRP's community events, fellowships, and publications. Prior to joining HRP, they served as a senior paralegal in immigration and family law. In addition to their legal work, Bergier has worked at nonprofits supporting women, undocumented youth, and low-income individuals, gaining valuable hands-on experience with underrepresented communities. At HRP, they continue to pursue their mission of advancing systemic change and promoting justice for marginalized populations.

Student Affiliates

HRP is proud to work with the following student affiliates:

- Jenny Domino
- Vanessa Daza Castillo
- Rosemary Karoro
- Iqra Khan
- Arvind Kurian Abraham
- Arnaaz Nizami Ameer

Acknowledgments

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- Norris Darrell, A.B. 1951, LL.B. 1954
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- Charles W. Newcom '74
- James D. Ross '85
- Albert M. Sacks LLB '48
- David J. Segre '84 and Marcy Dutton Segre
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- Henry Jacob Steiner LL.B. '55
- Lynn Strudler MAT '70
- Classmates, alumni, and friends of Neelan Tiruchelvam, LL.M. 1970, SJD 1973
- Winston Foundation

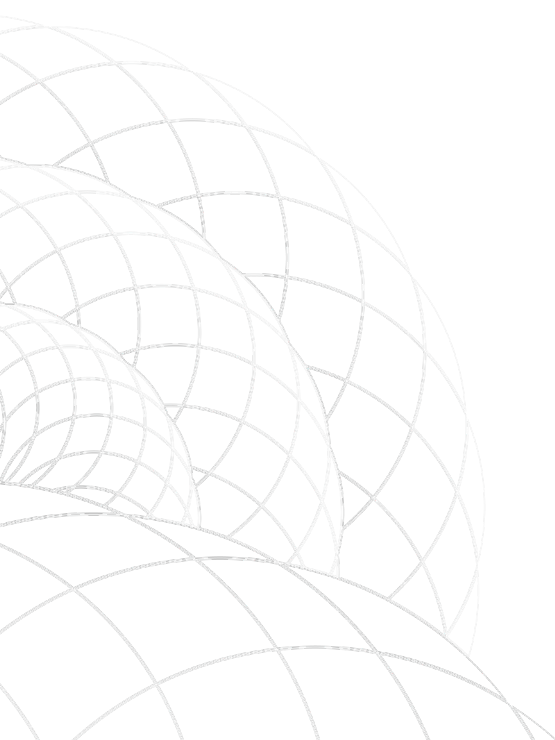
Credits

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Notes



*Bringing knowledge to the service
of human rights and equal dignity.*

