# UiO: Norwegian Centre for Human Rights University of Oslo

### Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo

Professor Gentian Zyberi Head of Department



#### **UiO Norwegian Centre for Human Rights**

**University of Oslo** 

#### **Brief Overview**

- The Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) is a multidisciplinary Centre, internationally recognized as a leading institution in the field of human rights.
- **Academic staff** (includes lawyers, a political scientist, social anthropologist, social geography, and philosophy) and the **international department**; **approximately 30 staff** (including *research assistants* and *emeriti*).
- Main activities: research, teaching, and training and capacity building – annual budget, about 40 million NOK.
- NCHR's International Department is funded through an agreement with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). The Department is thematically organized (capacity building and training).
- The NCHR hosts **three Faculty Research Groups**. The Centre is responsible for editing the **Nordic Journal of Human Rights** (Norwegian **level 2 publication channel**).
- CHR hosts a two-year **Master program in 'The Theory and Practice' Human Rights'**. Courses on human rights and IHL.

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#### NCHR Leadership Group

- · Gentian Zyberi, Head of Department.
- Stener Ekern, acting Deputy Head of Department, and Head of Research (substituting for Bård Anders Andreassen, who is on sabbatical until November 2020).
- Peris S Jones, Head of Education.
- Kathrine Raadim, Head of International Department.
- Teis Daniel Kjelling, Head of Administration.

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### **Teaching Activities**

- NCHR's two-year Master program in 'The Theory and Practice of Human Rights' is well-established and quite popular.
- NCHR is also involved in the teaching of human rights and international humanitarian law for law students and exchange students at the University of Oslo.
- **Summer school (ISS)**, course on fundamental human rights (**online this year**, due to Covid-19).
- Annual intensive human rights course (September).
- **Grant Erasmus** + **Global Mobility** (about 100K Euros), cooperation with the University of Prishtina, Kosovo.
- Preparing application for Norhed 2, capacity building.

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#### Research Activities

- Three Faculty Research Groups (armed conflicts and peace, sustainable development, migration and refugee law).
- Three externally funded research projects on migration and refugee law (*Maja Janmyr*: 1 NFR; 1 ERC\_StG; 1 ERC Horizon 2020).
- Recently submitted 5 NFR projects: 2 researcher projects and 3 post-doc projects (mobility stipend).
- Editing the Nordic Journal of Human Rights (since 1982).
- Visiting scholars' program (hosting international researchers).

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### Capacity Building and Training

- NCHR has over 30 years of experience promoting human rights through competence building, knowledge enhancement and dialogue.
- The **NCHR International Department** promotes human rights internationally through **six thematic areas of commitment:** 
  - 1. Human Rights Education: Yi Wang
  - 2. Rule of Law and/or Indonesia: Knut D. Asplund
  - 3. Freedom of Religion or Belief: Lena Larsen
  - 4. Business and Human Rights: Aksel A. Tømte
  - 5. Equality and non-discrimination: Elisabeth Perioli Bjørnstøl
  - 6. Human Rights Mechanisms and/or China: Cecilie F. Bakke
  - > Universal Protocol/UNPOL Cooperation: Gisle Kvanvig
- Long-term agreements with the Norwegian MFA. Current agreement with the MFA covers 2020-2021 (60 Million NOK in total). Process to secure new agreement/funding ongoing.

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### Concluding Remarks

- NCHR is a leading human rights Centre.
- Approximately 30 staff; budget about 40 million NOK.
- Research, teaching and capacity building/training.
- Broad thematic focus, with a strong presence in Asia (China, Indonesia and Vietnam/ASEAN).

