
Seminar on domestic impact of United Nations (UN) human rights treaty system

Please join us for an online seminar on the domestic impact of the United Nations human rights treaty system organized jointly by the Centre for Human Rights (CHR), University of Pretoria, and the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR), University of Oslo.

Date: 27 September 2022

Time: 13:00-15:30 SAST

Venue: Online. Please click [here](#) to register for the seminar.

Host: Foluso Adegalu, *Associate Manager, Litigation & Implementation Unit Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.*

Background:

The seminar on domestic impact of the United Nations human rights treaty system is part of the activities under a joint project on fostering research-based education through academic mobility and measuring the domestic impact of the Core UN human rights treaties funded by DIKU's UTFORSK programme. The project fosters collaborative education and research-based activities between the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR), University of Oslo, and the Centre for Human Rights (CHR), University of Pretoria. Some of the outcome of the project include student and academic staff mobility, and joint research cooperation with an international scope and impact, resulting in high-profile publications.

The research on the domestic impact of the UN treaty system is a large-scale, long term project aimed at facilitating a better understanding of the dynamics involved in the processes through which the UN human rights treaty system (the treaties themselves and the treaty monitoring bodies based in Geneva) makes a difference on the domestic level, or fails to do so. Without understanding to what extent what happens in Geneva actually helps to bring about change where it matters - to the people on the ground, worldwide—it is impossible to learn the lessons needed to ensure that the system will meet the challenges of the 21st century and thrives, or even merely survives.

The seminar will discuss thematic and country level analysis of the actual or potential influence of the UN treaty system on the promotion and protection of human rights at the national level.

Programme of events

Opening Remarks

Prof Frans Viljoen, *Director Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.*

Session 1: General perspectives on domestic impact of UN human rights treaty system

1. Reflections on the impact of the UN Human Rights Committee: Prof Gentian Zyberi, *Member, Human Rights Committee and Professor of Law, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo.*
2. Reflections on the potentials of the Academia in improving the domestic impact of the UN treaty system: Julie Viker Aanensen, *Adviser, International Department, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo.*
3. Overview of UN treaty system database project and discussions on the benefits of the UN treaty database project for researchers: Foluso Adegalu, *Associate Manager, Litigation & Implementation Unit Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria* and Fer Ghanaa Ansari (*LL.M., Harvard Law School*), *International Advocacy Officer, Musawah, Pakistan.*
4. Q&A

Session 2: Thematic discussion on domestic impact of UN human rights treaty system

1. The impact of UN human rights treaty bodies in promoting transparency in the implementation of sexual and reproductive health rights in Kenya: Benson Chakaya, *Doctoral researcher, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.*
2. An assessment of the domestic impact of international treaties in the prevention of violence against women in Africa: A case study of Ghana: Eva Abugabe, *HRDA Student, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.*
3. Impact of UN human rights treaties: a case for a bottom-up participatory approach: Devika Santhosh Nair, *Master's student, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo.*
4. The role of UN human rights treaties in constitutional adjudication in Francophone Africa: Jonas Sindani, *HRDA Student, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.*
5. Q&A

Session 3: Country-level discussion on domestic impact of UN human rights treaty system

1. The impact of the UN treaty bodies on the ground? A case study with a special focus on the CtRC and the enjoyment of children's rights in South Africa: Nils Alexander Alwon, *Master's student, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo.*
2. The domestic impact of UN human rights treaties in Pakistan: Fer Ghanaa Ansari (*LL.M., Harvard Law School*), *International Advocacy Officer, Musawah, Pakistan.*
3. Insights from specific events surrounding Uganda's compliance with the ICCPR and CAT: Brian Kibirango, *Doctoral researcher, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.*
4. Q&A
5. Short break

Concluding remarks

Prof Bård A. Andreassen, *Director, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo.*

For more information, please contact:

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