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MAGAZINE

Global Campus

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Secretary General
of the Global Campus
of Human Rights

With its Headquarters in Venice, the Global Campus of Human Rights is the largest network of universities specialized in postgraduate education in the field of democracy and human rights. It was founded with the support of the European Union, the Veneto Region and the City of Venice as a non-profit association under Italian law, comprising less than 30 universities in all EU member states, which have jointly organized the European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA) since its inception in 1997. In the meantime, similar professional Master programmes have been established in close cooperation with the EU in six other regions under the lead of the following coordinating universities: the University of San Martin in Buenos Aires for the Latin American and Caribbean region, the University of Pretoria for the African region, Mahidol University in Bangkok for the Asia-Pacific region, Saint Joseph University in Beirut for the Arab region, the State University of Yerevan for the Caucasus region as well as the Universities of Sarajevo and Bologna for the South East European region. In 2019, the roughly 100 universities actively involved in these seven Master programmes created the Global Campus of Human Rights and thereby transformed the European Inter-University Centre into a global one. In total, more than 3,500 students have graduated from these seven one-year inter-disciplinary Master programmes and work as human rights professionals in Governments around the world, in inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, in post-conflict field operations, the corporate sector and academia. There is almost no country in the world where you would not find Global Campus alumni in important positions. As our human rights ambassadors, they spread the message of democracy and human rights into all corners of our planet at a time when defending human rights and democracy is more important than ever.

With our new Magazine, we intend to make the various activities of the Global Campus of Human Rights better known to our partners and the public at large. In order to increase the visibility of our activities in Italy, and in particular in Venice and the Region of Veneto, we publish our Magazine in both English and Italian. In this first issue of our Magazine, we are happy to present interviews with some of our most important partners: Jutta Urpilainen, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships (formerly DEVCO); David Sassoli, President of the European Parliament; Luca Zaia, President of the Veneto Region; Paola Mar, Councillor for the Universities of the City of Venice; and Tiziana Lippiello, Rector of Ca'Foscari University in Venice.

While Venice with its magnificent cultural heritage is well known as one of the world's leading tourist destinations, the Global Campus of Human Rights, as one of the world's leading institutions of human rights education, wishes to strengthen the profile of "La Serenissima" as a centre of academic excellence. We would also be proud if we could contribute to formally establish Venice as a true Human Rights City!

Interviews with:

Jutta Urpilainen,
European Commissioner for
International Partnerships

David Sassoli,
President of the European
Parliament

Luca Zaia,
President of the Veneto Region

Paola Mar,
City Councilor — Municipality
of Venice

Tiziana Lippiello,
Rector of Ca' Foscari University
of Venice

Interview with Jutta Urpilainen European Commissioner for International Partnerships



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to ask the European Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen about the importance of human rights education around the world and her impressions about our academic network.

Please elaborate on the European Commission vision in driving education to achieve the respect of Human Rights and Democracy and deliver quality education in times of crisis in communities in need.

In many parts of the world, civic and political space is shrinking – more power is concentrated in fewer hands, with less and less accountability. At the same time, poverty, inequality and injustice continue to blight the lives of millions. Youth, women and girls, and minorities in particular, face huge challenges in having their voices heard and their needs addressed. Democracy and democratic institutions must evolve to allow access for all, not building walls but instead opening doors to the outside world. Young men and especially women must necessarily own and drive these evolutions.

As a former teacher, I am deeply convinced of the powerful role that education has to play in tackling global challenges and transforming the world we live in. Education is the key for young people to be empowered to shape tomorrow's world. It is also an enabling force in the achievement of other human rights as a driver of freedom, equality and democracy. Its funding must be protected.

This is why I have taken the decision to increase EU funding of Official Development Assistance to education in partner countries under my responsibility from 7% to 10%.

What motivates you as Commissioner to continue supporting the Global Campus of Human Rights activities in the field of human rights education & democratisation around the world?

One of my personal priorities is to have more young people involved in shaping and implementing EU external action. Young people are the change makers. This is why we also made sure that in our new strategy with Africa, youth is placed on the frontline of a comprehensive approach. My aim is to equip as many young people as possible with 21st century skills and motivate them to seek leadership roles, especially girls. We want to inspire them to get involved, exercise their rights, and uphold the rights of others.

This requires an education based on universal values, with equality, dignity, peace, sustainability and respect for human rights at the heart of the curriculum. Global Campus offers a unique opportunity to build a community of true human rights ambassadors and defenders who, in turn, will inform and educate people in their own countries. They know that they can rely on a strong network with whom to discuss and challenge ideas.

What does the DG for International Cooperation and Development hope to achieve through continued support to this rapidly growing academic network of 100 Universities?

First, we are changing the name of the DG to International partnerships, which also is the title of my own portfolio. This new wording is already a message. We want to partner with and mutually benefit from cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders.

We also count on the Global Campus as a strong partner in furthering human rights and democracy education across the globe. Through its network of partner universities, Global Campus has formidable potential to bring in lasting changes in partner countries.

I would invite the Global Campus to further reach out to young people in countries where civic and political space is closing. We know there are technical and political risks and challenges involved in providing human rights education and in fighting for academic freedom in such countries. Know that you can count on our unwavering support in that endeavour.

What are the EU's main priorities for education, human rights and democratisation in your new strategy for 2021-2027?

We are currently finalising the negotiations on the new strategy of the EU and Member States on human rights and democracy for the next five years. Education, as a human right and as part of the solution, will be at the heart of the EU's investments in development.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced global leaders to re-think education systems. Education has never been more relevant or more at risk. Some 1.6 billion children have had their education interrupted by COVID-19, and we risk reversing the gains made over decades. The most vulnerable students – girls, young people living with disabilities, those affected by crises and displacement – are at increased risk of never returning to the classroom.

We must ensure no one is left behind, particularly women and girls and this will be covered in our upcoming Gender Ac-

tion Plan 3. And, crucially, all students need to learn 21st century skills, so that they can take on jobs that do not exist yet and tackle crises that we cannot foresee. They must graduate with skills in critical thinking, civic responsibility and communication, to be able to lead their societies towards a more sustainable and more prosperous, peaceful, equal and just future. We will obviously support teachers, the beating heart of the education system, in adapting to this changing world.

What are the main challenges you think the Commission will need to address in the next years related to Human Rights?

Human rights are a core value of the European Union, and their protection and promotion around the world is a key strategic priority for us. We support multilateralism and a rules-based international order. However, some countries take a different approach. The EU does not hesitate to make political statements and take action.

However, we are well aware that change needs to come from within. We therefore need to continue supporting civil society on promoting human rights and democratic values, raising awareness and giving a voice to communities and youth, to help universal values flourish. We need to carry on protecting human rights defenders so they can continue their important work of holding governments to account. More and more, we need to use a rights-based approach in all our international actions, with people at its heart so their voices are heard and their rights are upheld, even when we are helping to build a hydro-electric plant or supporting economic growth.

The EU plays an instrumental role at global level and in its partnership with the other regional, international and multilateral institutions. How do you see the EU's role in supporting the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals, as

we face COVID-19 and a continued uncertainty of the future?

COVID-19 has deepened existing inequalities and has reversed decades of progress on SDGs. The EU will continue to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals by putting them back on track through strong international partnerships based on mutual interests and shared values.

Our ability to address all inequalities will be crucial to achieving the SDGs and leaving no one behind. Here, the EU is taking forward a transformative agenda at global level. We are working with our partners and within the multilateral system to deliver a global recovery that seeks to reduce inequalities by linking investment and debt relief to the Sustainable Development Goals, as proposed by President von der Leyen last May.

We will focus in particular on youth, women and education, as without education, there will be no global recovery, economic growth, human development or equality.

Could you give a personal message to students, professors, partners and staff of the Global Campus of Human Rights, a network of 100 Universities around the world supported by the EU, that are our followers and reading this interview? How could they be inspired and encouraged by your work as Commissioner leading your team of professionals?

Firstly, I would like to reach out to the

young people and particularly young women reading this. I appeal to you to engage in public life, in your student life and beyond. Do not hesitate to go for leadership opportunities and to use your voice in political discussions.

Secondly, I want to commend you for overcoming the challenges of COVID-19 to continue your studies. I am deeply impressed by the resilience of students and teachers who are not only adapting to this new reality but are also coming up with innovative solution to take learning online and the EU will support this.

I would like students, professors, partners and staff of the Global Campus of Human Rights to know that we are inspired and encouraged by their work over the past few months. 2020 has been a particularly difficult year, and we have been closely following the increasingly difficult situation in which many of you have had to operate.

But we will overcome this crisis together.

Interview with David Sassoli President of the European Parliament



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to ask the new President of the European Parliament, David Sassoli, to share his impressions about the current Human Rights challenges ahead for his presidency and for the Institution he represents.

What is the importance that the European Parliament under your presidency will give to Education on Human Rights and Democracy?

Respect for human rights and democracy are the fundamental principles that underpin our Union. The founding fathers recognised that only by creating common institutions could we guarantee peace and protect human rights throughout Europe. They had witnessed the atrocities of World War II and saw how easily rights and freedoms could be crushed and democracies subverted. They wanted to create a system that would ensure this could never happen again.

Our union has been a remarkable success in securing peace and protecting human rights. However, as the memory of war fades, we have to be vigilant against complacency. The lessons of the past are not etched permanently on our collective consciousness; it is only through education that we can hope to pass them on to each future generation.

Over the past few years, we have seen the principles that underpin our democracies chipped away, even in EU member states. It is more important than ever that we educate about why these fundamental ideas and rights are needed. For me, education on these issues, both formally in schools and universities but also within the public at large, must be an absolute priority. The future of Europe depends on it.

What are the main challenges do you think the EU Parliament will need to address in the next few years related to Human Rights?

Freedom of expression, minority rights, gender equality, the right to claim asylum, to name just a few. In all these areas, we have seen the progress of the last few decades being challenged. It is essential that we continue fighting for these essential principles whenever they are threatened, be it inside Europe or around the world.

We also need to be aware of how the world is changing, and the new opportunities and threats these bring for our fundamental rights. Over the next five years, digitisation will touch on ever more parts of our lives, bringing profound questions about the right to privacy, freedom of speech and expression. I think how we manage and shape these new developments will be a defining issue for this Parliament.

It is the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child this year. Are there any particular campaigns you care for related to child's rights protection?

The 30th anniversary is an important moment to recognise the progress that has been made on protecting Children's rights in Europe and around the globe. In Parliament, we will hold a high-level conference and will light up the Parliament blue as

part of a worldwide campaign. We want to raise awareness of the convention, to celebrate what has been achieved but also focus on what still needs to be done.

The European Parliament has prioritised the rights of children, particularly access to education. Every child, regardless of where they are born, deserves a good quality education. Still, over 260 million children around the world still have no access to a school or formal education. Addressing this must be a major priority for the European Union in the coming years.

What are the personal campaigns that David Sassoli MEP is giving extra attention to these days? Could you share some of your goals with us?

In October, on the European and World Day, I spoke in the European Parliament against the death penalty. I am convinced that death inflicted by the state can never constitute true justice. The death penalty is an affront to human dignity and cannot be tolerated under any circumstances. Our Parliament is determined and committed to the abolition of the death penalty. We will do everything in our power to reach a day when this barbarity is banned throughout the world.

Could you give a personal message to students and professors of the Global Campus of Human Rights, a network of 100 Universities around the world supported by the EU, that are our followers and that are reading this interview? How could they be inspired and encouraged by the EU Parliament President?

My personal message to all those studying and working with the Global Campus of Human Rights is: don't be disheart-

ened, never stop fighting for our fundamental values, and hold those in positions of power to account.

For those of my generation, who watched the transition of many European countries from dictatorship to democracy, saw Europe reunited following the fall of the Berlin wall, we felt the world was coming closer together, that human rights would be strengthened, not threatened in subsequent decades. Sadly, that has not been the case.

Perhaps we forgot that progress is not something that just happens. It is won only by organisation, education, and hard work by those who care. So learn from the lessons of my generation, do not take hard-won rights and freedoms for granted but instead appreciate and fight for them every single day. Use new technologies, organise effectively, and ensure those in power cannot ignore the issues you care most about.

Interview with Luca Zaia President of the Veneto Region



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to ask questions to the President of the Veneto Region, Luca Zaia, about some challenges for the Institution he represents and his support to the Universities in the Region.

How do you see the future of the educational / academic world in Venice and Veneto for the next few years?

The events of recent months have changed many things and, in some ways, it will no longer be possible to ignore the experiences that the pandemic has forced us to confront. Computerization, telematic connections, the digitization of processes were said to be the future. That future has suddenly become the present; for everyone, even for those who still did not believe it. Teaching and the entire academic world, in this period of various restrictions related to infection, have found their anchor in distance teaching, in the ability to contact teachers and take both lectures and exams via the web. This made us address the need to find new ways to protect and enhance relationships and interpersonal relationships which, especially in those who are of an age where they study, are essential and fundamental. However, it has dropped us into such a massively new reality, from which new organizational models are emerging, destined to increasingly characterize universities and academic institutions.

And what about the collaboration between local and international institutions? (The Global campus has created closer roots and greater synergy with the territory via Veneto Sostenibile as one of the

most important missions for the future)

Attendance of online courses and the use of digital services today greatly shorten distances also in the international arena; the farthest university can be reached with just one click. In this context, the scenarios of collaborations and synergies are infinite with a cascade of opportunities, especially for the Veneto region which has always been open to the world and keeps pace with cutting-edge technology. We can also allow ourselves a reflection: there is frequent talk of a brain drain by passing on the message that there is no future here and there are prospects only abroad.

Experience abroad for young people is absolutely fundamental, sometimes I think that no curriculum should be without it. But I also have the impression that a context is emphasized, that today - thanks to the once unimaginable means of connection and communication - is almost domestic. The real challenge for the next few years is to compete internationally without losing sight of one's own territory. For this reason, I invite young people to look abroad in a reasoned way, that is, finding out what they are going to do, how many are really successful, how many return home, how many wash dishes or how many have become directors of something. This is because Veneto is internationally competitive and, maybe we don't know it yet, but among our young

people, surely there are the girls and boys who tomorrow will be successful entrepreneurs, university professors or established professionals.

The Global Campus of Human Rights has been collaborating for some time with the University of Ca 'Foscari and the University of Padua. In the coming years, how will the universities of Veneto have to network to respond to the needs of civil society and the world of work? How will the Veneto Region give its financial and technical support to universities and their academic network?

As a Region, we have always been committed to strengthening the relationship of the business world not only with universities but also with secondary schools to encourage employment according to specific skills and the use of specialized figures. The commitment to promoting university research is also strong. From 2015 to 2018 alone, € 14 million was put out to tender to support 450 young researchers. In 2018, with ESF funds, we financed 51 innovative research projects and inter-university cooperation or collaboration between the academic world and the production system, providing 109 research grants to as many researchers, for a total of 4 million euros. In 2019, another 5 million euros were made available for a new call for unemployed young graduates under 35, for projects that stimulate cooperation between the academic and production systems. I must also stress that if our healthcare model differs from that of other realities, it is due to the attention we have always shown for university training in this area, also to compensate for the shortage of specialists resulting from a lack of careful central planning.

Every year we allocate around 10 million euros to finance 90 specialization scholarships for young doctors, in addition to those already provided at national level. Everything that the Region can do it does,

not only with funding, also by acting as a promoter and facilitator of synergies between various realities; I am thinking for example of the completion of the teaching cycle of Medicine and Surgery at the Treviso campus, thanks to an agreement that we signed together with the University of Padua and the Ulss 2 Company. A great goal achieved that I would define as historic in higher university education: it will bring of the total to at least 360 students from the various academic years that will become doctors in a highly formative educational and assistance environment rooted in the area. A true model of what the synergy between our university system, local realities and, specifically, our health model can produce

In your opinion, what will be the most important challenge for the academic world for the next 5-6 years in terms of teaching at regional level? What kind of skills will universities need to be able to "pass on" to their students?

Today, talking about challenges means overcoming the consequences of the pandemic and returning to growth in the economic sector and in every social sphere. Until last winter, Veneto boasted a situation second only to Trentino Alto Adige, with 6.6% unemployment. Today the situation is troubled and we fear the loss of 60,000 jobs. However, despair is not a thing for us Venetians and as always we throw ourselves into work to start again. For us, Veneto must remain that reality made up of 600,000 businesses and 150 billion GDP. Every effort must go in this direction to support a productive fabric that does not arise from the Fordist model of the large factory but from that of the small business. A story to which great innovation was essential because the first real innovators were our entrepreneurs who, with investments, made this community and the whole country great. No competence is foreign to this connotation. And interna-

tional relations will be even more crucial. Our production reality is characterized by strong relationships with other countries; it is true that this has further penalized it due to the difficulties of the connections that arose with the epidemic but it is also true that we cannot save ourselves and reciprocal relations will also be decisive in the recovery.

The Global Campus of Human Rights' twenty-year collaboration with the European Union has brought more than 6,000 students from all over the world to Venice. How can it be an even more welcoming city for them in the future?

Venice is an international city by its nature and definition. By extension it is the whole region, which has its indispensable reference in the Serenissima from a historical and cultural point of view. The students who have come to our region in recent years have certainly seen and appreciated this. However, the cosmopolitan vocation of a territory is not nourished only by its history, it is a connotation that must be kept alive and combined with its traditions. This is also why we strongly wanted and managed to bring world-class events such as the 2026 Winter Olympics and the 2021 World Ski Championships to Veneto, we have obtained the eighth Unesco World Heritage site in the region with the Prosecco di Conegliano Hills. and Valdobbiadene. It is not just about tourism initiatives, they are all initiatives in favor of relationships and relationships that open up to the world. These are concrete messages from a land that has always been hospitable and as such wants to grow.

What do we ask of our young people so that they become citizens aware of human rights and their future in a democracy? And what do we leave them in the field to help them along this path?

The ongoing pandemic has brought out a great sense of responsibility especially

among young people. They are among those who have paid the highest price in restrictions, aggregative limitations, limitations in classroom attendance or sports activities. But their attitude has for the most part been exemplary and worthy of true conscious citizens. The awareness of duty also gives rise to that of rights and together they are an essential condition for the right assumption of responsibility. From this individual assumption of responsibility, that of an entire community develops, the same that Veneto is asking to demonstrate by becoming autonomous. I am certain that it is a goal that we will achieve; also thanks to the skills that our young people prove to be capable of.

Can you leave us a message for teachers, alumni, students and staff of the Global Campus of Human Rights?

Benjamin Rush, one of the founding fathers of the United States said: Without learning, men would not know what their rights are. I therefore think that it can always be an opportunity for great reflection to spend one's professional life or study, even if only for a period, in this Venetian region that is home to millennial republican institutional model through the Serenissima, one of the oldest, and most prestigious universities in Italy and in the world with Padua, and all together represents a story of commitment and promotion social promotion through work.

Interview with Paola Mar City Councilor — Municipality of Venice



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to ask the new city councilor Paola Mar, who shares her impressions representing the re-elected Mayor of Venice, Luigi Brugnaro, about the challenges for the Institution she represents.

How do you see the future of relations between the city of Venice, the Municipality of Venice and the universities that are part of it over the next few years?

In the five years that have just passed, we have carried out significant work by mending relations within the city and between the city and those who live there. Venice, “Stato da Mar and Stato da Tera”, has gone back to being proud of that millenary history built on the important balance between the city of land and that of the sea, and above all it has begun to be the fulcrum of relationships, cultural and experiential exchanges at national and also international level. In this process, the university world plays a fundamental role, as through the many young people who attend them and their being citizens of the world who decide to live in Venice for a period of time, we are able to tell the story of who we are and what we want to achieve.

The Global campus of Human Rights will also be able to contribute to this path, since it has already identified among its main objectives that of creating an increasingly closer roots and greater synergy with the territory.

The Global Campus of Human Rights has been collaborating for some time with the University of Ca’ Foscari and with the University of Padua, with the Venice International University. In what way in the

coming years will the universities of Venice and Veneto be able to network more with city institutions?

Knowing that collaborations already exist between the universities present in the area can only be a positive thing, as sharing paths and creating synergy allows us to grow by comparing and treasuring the experiences of others. This administration will always be at the forefront to contribute to the growth of a university network that can also bring the virtuous Boston model to Venice. We have also demonstrated this by supporting the “Study in Venice” project, created from the collaboration of Ca’ Foscari University, IUAV University of Venice, Benedetto Marcello Conservatory and Academy of Fine Arts, IUSVE and Venice International University, thus creating a real center for higher education. I am convinced that the Venetian educational institutions must be the ones to attract the students in their countries of origin, thus bringing the excellence of the world to the city. In short, we must all row the same boat to create shared, synergistic and above all useful projects for the growth of Venice.

What do we ask our young people for the future? Do you consider education in human rights and democracy to be important in times of pandemics and crises

like these? How much does the ability to relate to a person on a working level on the international front count in a globalized world like today?

Right now, we ask our young people above all for a considerable responsibility in dealing with this moment of health emergency. But even more, today, the new generations must strive to create innovative ideas for the future. Opportunities for improvement arise from the crisis and our young people will have to do their utmost to bring their attitude to innovation and a different approach to face the challenges that the future will put before us. We must open up our horizons, not be afraid to make room for modernity and new technologies that will be the basis for the development of our society. From this perspective, international relations take on an even more important value. Venice has also built a world power on the basis of its diplomatic influence. Now, as we are about to remember the 1600th anniversary of its birth, we must learn to rediscover our innate ability to relate to the world and make this the starting point for a “restart” after the difficult months we have had to face.

The twenty-year collaboration of Global Campus of Human Rights with the European Union has brought to Venice the high institutional offices of the European institutions and students from all over the world. How in the future can the city become more welcoming and hospitable for them?

The pandemic has revolutionized the economy of the entire city by opening up new horizons from the point of view of housing. For example, thanks to the driving force of the Mayor and the Rector of the IUAV, last spring we signed a protocol between the Municipality and the University regarding the possibility for students to use the properties that were intended for tourist use. A protocol that has not only met with the full support of Ca' Foscari, the Veneto Region and other entities that have wished to sign it, but which demonstrates how the will of the city is to bring residency back to its own territory. A choice that the municipal administration has also pursued by not alienating its housing assets but by committing more than 20 million euros to renovate them and be able to deliver them, through special calls, also to young people who decide to come and live in the city. These are facts and also in the capacity of Heritage Councilor, we will continue to work on this.

Can you leave us a message for teachers, pupils, students and staff of the Global Campus of Human Rights?

Part of our future is in your hands and together we can build it. President J.F. Kennedy said, “Don’t ask yourself what your country can do for you, ask yourself what you can do for your country.” Do not just imagine a better world but take part directly in the change in the name of freedom, culture, peace and human rights.

Interview with Tiziana Lippiello Rector of Ca' Foscari University of Venice



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to ask the new Rector of Ca' Foscari University, Tiziana Lippiello, about our institutional partnership and future projects.

The Global Campus of Human Rights has been collaborating for some time with the University of Ca' Foscari. How will Venetian universities and academic associations be able to network among themselves and with international networks in Venice in the coming years?

I have always thought that Venice, due to its history, its university and cultural institutions, can be a pole of excellence in some specific fields of study and be very attractive to students and scholars from all over the world. I have had confirmation of this in recent years during my many travels as Vice Rector for International Relations. Abroad there is interest in Venice and its academic institutions, so I think the time is ripe to forge new synergies and introduce ourselves, internationally, as an integrated university center. We can begin by working together, for example, on the residential front to offer safe and affordable accommodation to those who stay in the city for study purposes.

The twenty-year collaboration of the Global Campus of Human Rights with the European Union has brought students and participants from all over the world to Venice. And the same applies to Ca' Foscari, IUAV and VIU. How will the city become more welcoming and hospitable to them in the future in terms of residential and job opportunities and active

integration into the urban fabric?

Venice is experiencing a very special moment in its history, the world health emergency has left a serious crisis in the city's tourist economy and has contributed to questioning its most critical aspects; so this is the time more than ever to think about a new future for Venice and I think that university institutions can offer a lot if involved, I am sure that they would be willing to give their contribution, in synergy - of course - with the city government and all other institutions. Residences, spaces, services are the first aspects to be enhanced and strengthened to make Venice more attractive in the eyes of those who would like to live, invest or study there. We have a human capital of great value, we have students and researchers who could bring innovation and culture, ideas and projects also in collaboration with international partners and companies. We just have to develop an organic vision of the city and work together to implement it.

What is missing at the moment? What are the most important emergencies from the point of view of welcoming students to the city?

As I said, universities need spaces and services. Also the residential matter is a crucial point. On this front, the Study in Venice project has already been launched in collaboration with the municipal admin-

istration and trade associations, which aims to place or relocate apartments for tourists to students. It is a first step and it was important to start by joining forces and ideas. Universities alone cannot go anywhere, but the city alone will not be able to go far either.

What are the challenges in terms of teaching and transversal skills that concern all contemporary students?

What do we ask of our young people for the future regarding the promotion of human rights and democratization? How important is the ability to relate on an international front in a globalized world like the one of today on the working level? We have been hearing about transversal skills for several years now and at Ca' Foscari, for example, we have been addressing them for a long time through specific workshops and initiatives for our students. However, I think that soft skills are no longer the new frontier, even though they are absolutely important: the world moves fast and training must know how to do the same. Today, in my opinion, added value in the educational offer is represented by the interdisciplinary paths that intertwine different but complementary fields of study with which to face today's global challenges; I believe that the Venetian network of university and academic institutions would have a lot to offer in this sense, in the light of specific skills. With the strong international approach of the Venetian educational offer and the worldwide network of relationships, I believe that our students can have an extra quality on a professional level.

Do you think closer collaboration between universities and academic networks is possible or useful in relation to the main citizen events involving universities and the most relevant issues in these times of pandemic and crisis (for example our on-site courses such as the European Master in Human Rights EMA, Summer School in Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy, the Venice School of Human Rights) and your events related to human rights, sustainability and UN Global Goals (Ca' Foscari Sostenibile, Global Challenges, Incontri di Civiltà, etc.)?

Yes of course. I have just taken office as Rector and in my electoral program I have dedicated an important chapter to the theme of synergies in the field of cultural initiatives, I also had the opportunity to talk about it with Councilor Paola Mar, receiving a more than collaborative response from her. We can and must team up and work on shared planning.

Can you leave us a message for teachers, alumni, students and staff of the Global Campus of Human Rights?

I really look at your reality with great esteem and I am pleased that the Global Campus of Human Rights is present in Venice; I wish your entire community a fruitful and stimulating academic year, hopefully free from the health emergency soon, and future opportunities for meeting and collaboration.

News & Events

Online Global Classroom

European Union Annual Report
on Human Rights and

Democracy in the World 2019

Global Campus Human Rights
Journal — Special Focus on
Children's Rights Issues

GC Human Rights Preparedness

Global Study Launch in Ethiopia

Global Campus of Human Rights
at Venezia77

Ceremony for the Awarding of

Diplomas of the “European

Master in Human Rights and

Democratisation” Academic

year 2019/2020

Venice School of Human Rights

Online Global Campus of Human
Rights Conversations

Online Global Classroom: “The United Nations Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty”

The Global Classroom is one of the flagship activities of the Global Campus designed to bring together students, professors and experts from the regions of the university programmes involved in a week-long conference, where a topic of current interest for all the regions involved is studied, analysed and discussed through the lenses of different regional perspectives. The uniqueness of this annual event lies in the possibility to deepen the understanding of global human rights challenges and foster inter-regional academic exchange and collaboration.

Due to the current situation caused by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Global Classroom took place online, which however allowed the participation of a broader audience and panelists from all around the globe.

The Global Classroom 2020 revolved around the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, which was successfully presented in Geneva on 19 November 2019. The focus of this year’s Global Classroom was therefore to map global trends in children’s deprivation of liberty by looking at the use of detention of children in different settings in the various regions, as well as identifying key challenges and the implementation of the recommendations of this Global Study.

Key settings and thematic areas of children’s deprivation of liberty included were:

- Criminal Justice Systems and Child Justice Systems – restorative justice, diversion and non-custodial solutions;
- Children Living in Prisons with their Primary Caregivers (Parent, usually a mother) – children as rights holders;
- Migration-related Detention – family separation, unaccompanied minors, refugee children;
- Children Living in Institutions – problem in the definition, deinstitutionalisation processes, family-type care vs institutions;
Children in Armed Conflict – rehabilitation and reintegration back into society, family reunification;
- Children Deprived of Liberty due to National Security Reasons – recruitment of children; arbitrary deten-



GLOBAL CLASSROOM 2020

The UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty *- Online -*

7-9 September 2020

tion including for alleged offences by family members, intelligence gathering, ransom, prisoner swaps or for sexual exploitation.

This year's Global Classroom was categorized in four phases. In phase 1, students prepare a research paper and a video or power point in a working group. The outcomes will be presented and discussed in phase 2 by different students who are randomly assigned to one of the thematic researches. This allowed enhancing inter-regional exchange and discussion among students, who will then prepare proposals for strategies.

Phase 3 encompassed the live global discussion of the Global Classroom, where the research outcomes from phase 1 and the sum-

maries from phase 2 are presented before inviting the audience to a collective discussion. Included in the live session within phase 3, there was a high-level expert panel sharing the experiences of working with and for children deprived of liberty.

In phase 4 each university programme might involve students in the organisation of regional presentations/press conferences on the findings and recommendations/strategic plan to local authorities, experts, stakeholders and general audiences, enhancing the dissemination and communication skills to wide audiences.

The Global Campus of Human Rights will share the several outcomes of this event, namely the students' publications, an outcome document sum-

marizing key outcomes of the event, a promotional video of the event and the possibility for external audience to stream the full Global Classroom.

European Union Annual Report on Human Rights and Democracy in the World 2019

On 15 June 2020, the EU published its Annual Report on Human Rights and Democracy in the World 2019, which contains a wealth of interesting information on “EU action to stop the erosion of human rights worldwide” (High Representative Josep Borrell). It provides an excellent overview of the various initiatives of the EU at multilateral level, the implementation of the EU human rights guidelines and other instruments of EU foreign policy, such as human rights dialogues. The activities of Eamon Gilmore, the EU Special Representative for Human Rights, who spoke at last year’s EMA Graduation Ceremony in Venice about the multiple challenges that human rights and democracy face in today’s world, are also portrayed.

The Annual Report describes a broad variety of innovative human rights projects that were financed in 2019 under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights. We are extremely pleased that this report also highlights two projects in which the Global Campus of Human Rights is intensively involved: the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, which was co-funded by the EU and officially launched in November 2019.

The finalization of the Global Study, its launch in Geneva and many further follow-up activities in Pretoria, Bangkok and other regions also received decisive support through our partnership with the Right Livelihood Foundation. We are continuing these activities to raise global awareness about the suffering of more than 7 million children deprived of liberty worldwide and to assist States in their efforts of deinstitutionalization, diversion, ending migration-related detention of children and other measures aimed at drastically reducing the number of children deprived of liberty worldwide.

Among thousands of human rights projects funded by the EU, this Annual Report puts a special emphasis on our capacity-building project in Timor-Leste as a true success story. In just a few months, Adriano Remiddi and his dedicated team in Dili were able to establish the first Human Rights Centre at the National University of Timor-Leste.



This Centre engages in training and research activities, international networking and in organizing weekly public events involving hundreds of young people to discuss the most pressing human rights issues in this young country, which celebrated last year the 20th anniversary of a UN sponsored referendum that finally led to its independence after many years of struggle. With the assistance of Mahidol University, students and professors from the National University of Timor-Leste receive advanced human rights training in Bangkok with the aim of enabling the National University to soon join the Asia-Pacific Master in Human Rights and Democratisation and the Global Campus of Human Rights. Congratulations to our colleagues in Dili and Bangkok for this important recognition of their outstanding work!

Veronica Gomez and Manfred Nowak — President and Secretary General of the Global Campus of Human Rights

On the first year anniversary of the opening of the UNTL Human Rights Centre, we from the Global Campus Asia Pacific Regional Master Programme (APMA) would like to send our special thanks to the all those dedicated people working on this project. There has been a lot of labour involved in setting up this Centre and supporting it, including the students who have taken a great interest, the lectures at National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL) engaging with the education of human rights, the university administrators supporting these ideas, and the dedicated staff from the Global Campus who have built up the Centre over this time. We look forward to continuing this cooperation and seeing the Centre, and its supporters from UNTL, build strong ties with the APMA Programme and universities from the region. Remarkable foundations have been built over a short time, such as the development of a bachelor's course and the training of staff and lecturers. These kinds of developments

would normally take quite some time in other countries, but they have been done effectively and quickly at UNTL. This is a credit to all involved. It also demonstrates that there is a deeply rooted interest in human rights and democracy in this country. This interest is something the Human Rights Centre, and the broader network it is part of, will continue to contribute to.

Dr. Michael George Hayes, Director of the GC Asia-Pacific at the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University (Thailand).

Global Campus Human Rights Journal Special Focus on Children's Rights Issues

The most recent volume of the Global Campus Human Rights Journal was published on 31 July 2020. It comprises a special focus feature, foregrounding selected developments in the area of children's rights. The special focus results from a cooperation agreement between the Global Campus of Human Rights and the Right Livelihood Foundation.

The Global Campus of Human Rights consists of the Global Campus Europe, South East Europe, Africa, Asia Pacific, Caucasus, Latin America and the Arab World, with the participation of post-graduate students from their respective Master's programmes in Human Rights and Democracy. The Right Livelihood Foundation is a Swedish charity, whose mission it is to honour and support courageous people solving global problems.

The editor of this 'special focus' part of the Journal, is Chiara Altafin, Research Manager at the Global Campus of Human Rights. The special focus aims to contribute to the debate generated by the anniversary celebration of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), by this edition of the Global Campus Human Rights Journal, which provides insight into selected developments in the area of children's rights in different regions covered by the Global Campus of Human Rights. The articles presented under this special focus address the regional scope and impact of current developments by either examining a key theme in a specific country or region or by exploring a cross-cutting topic in different regional perspectives. The contributions are mainly multi-disciplinary in the sense that they combine legal analysis with social, historical, political, economic and other relevant dimensions. Importantly, in considering CRC, each article provides considerations by which to assess the ongoing impact of the Convention and what it means to adopt a rights-based approach to matters involving children.

The volume further contains an article discussing the root causes for the ongoing political malaise in Cameroon. The author identifies as the most pertinent explanation the failure of that state to effectively implement the decentralisation framework provided for under the 1996 Constitution of Cameroon.



Global Campus Human Rights Journal

with special focus
on children's rights

“This issue of the Global Campus Human Rights Journal taps into the rich diversity of human rights-related experiences in various regions of the world, with a specific focus on children's rights. It adds a transnational and interdisciplinary dimension to the scholarship as we mark 30 years since the entry into force of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990.” Commented Frans Viljoen.

“The GCHRJ's special focus on selected developments in the area of children's rights can contribute to our understanding of existing practices and challenges in various regional contexts, with remarks and lessons to be considered for the years to come.” stated Chiara Altafin.

The Journal also contains a discussion of ‘recent developments’ in the fields of human rights and democratisation in four of the regions covered by the Global Campus of Human Rights. In this issue, developments during 2019 in the following four regions are covered: Europe, sub-Saharan Africa, the ‘Arab world’ and the Asia Pacific. These contributions are collective endeavours, based on the research and writing of academics or staff, and students or recent graduates of four of the regional Master's programmes forming part of the Global Campus of Human Rights. The Global Campus Human Rights Journal first appeared in 2017, and is available as an open access online publication.

GC Human Rights Preparedness Initiative

Each pandemic is different. At the same time, each is also the latest in a long line, which means there are lessons to be learned from the past, and preparations that can be made for the future.

The Global Campus of Human Rights - the largest consortium of human rights educators with more than 100 universities from across the world - believes that a rights-based approach to pandemics and other emergencies is vital. It is now harnessing its multiregional and multidisciplinary approach, resources and outreach to create a resource that will be a point of reference for a rights-based approach: GC Human Rights Preparedness.

www.gchumanrights.org/preparedness

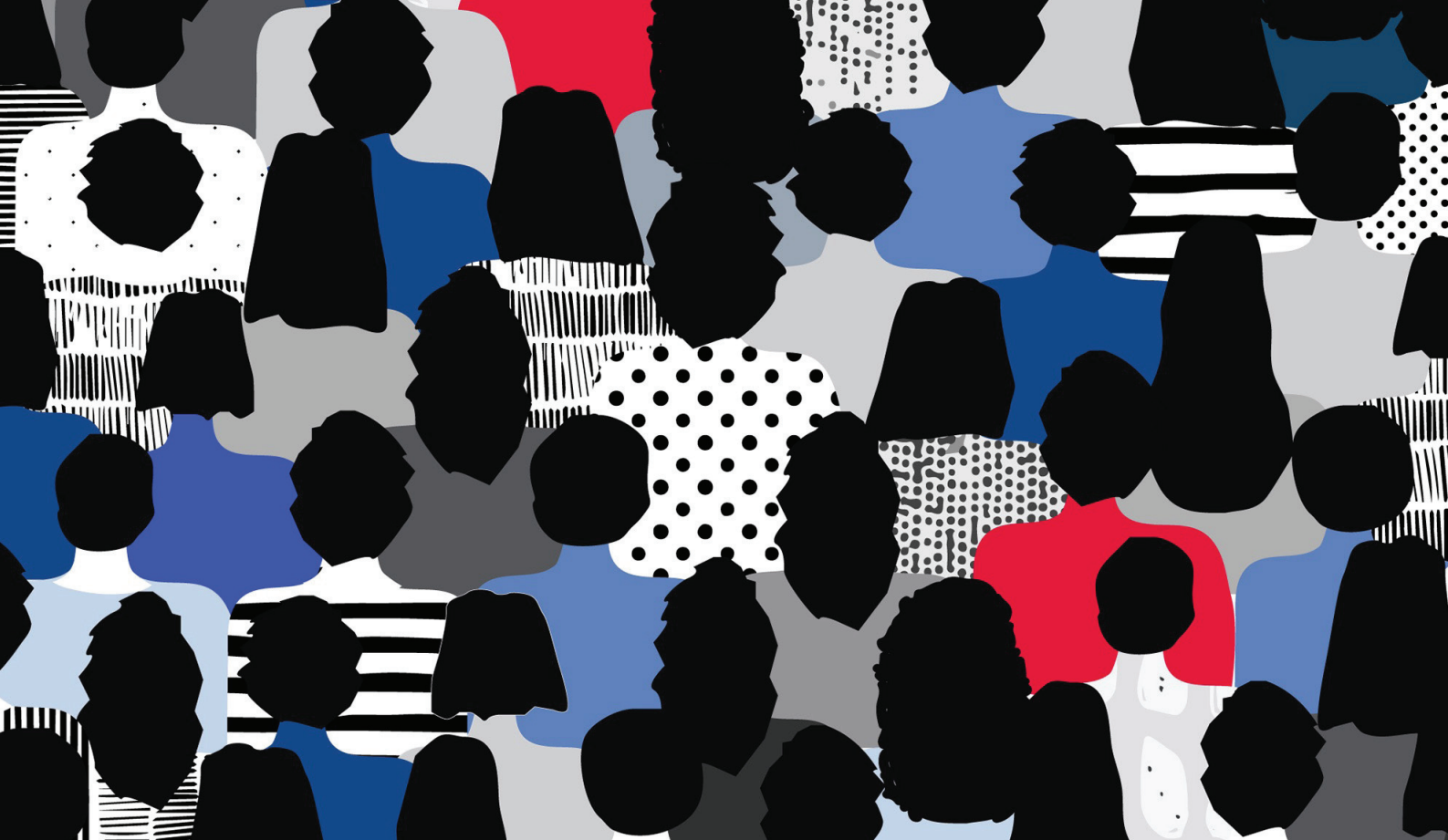
With this initiative we invite our contributors to:

- explain the ways in which protecting, respecting and fulfilling human rights, as we understand them today, is vital in meeting the challenges of pandemics and other emergencies;
- imagine how human rights could be better prepared for such challenges.

“Human rights are vital to pandemic preparedness and mitigation”, explains Prof. Thérèse Murphy, founding editor of the initiative, chairperson of the European Master’s in Human Rights and Democratisation, and representative of Queen’s University Belfast. “We know this in part because we have learned from the HIV/AIDS pandemic where lives were saved when a rights-based approach replaced the criminalisation, stigma and discrimination of the initial response. However, as the COVID-19 pandemic is making clear, a rights-based approach to pandemics is neither secure nor sufficiently clearly articulated.”

In order to play a bold and reflective role in developing and promoting a rights-based approach to pandemics and other emergencies, GC Human Rights Preparedness will engage in rich, inclusive and wide-ranging conversations.

As pointed out by Prof. Kalliope Agapiou-Josephides, GC Council Representative of the University of Cyprus and founding editor of GC Human Rights Preparedness, “Our goal is to advance a rights-based approach to pandemics and other emergencies, ensuring that existing



inequalities, which can be exacerbated in times of crisis, and the risk of disproportionate impact on marginalised or disadvantaged individuals and groups, are integrated from the outset.”

To this end, the initiative has set four objectives:

- To share information via open source materials;
- To chart and fill knowledge gaps with respect to persistent challenges and best practices;
- To compare approaches across regions and disciplines;
- To demonstrate the value of the arts, humanities and social sciences as essential companions to the sciences.

“The Human Rights Preparedness initiative [by the Global Campus of Human Rights] is innovative, exciting and essential. The European Union is proud to

support it.” Eamon Gilmore, EU Representative for Human Rights.

GC Human Rights Preparedness is curated by an editorial team supported by a multiregional and multidisciplinary group of reviewers and advisors whose knowledge and expertise is best suited to discuss complex issues. In this light, Prof. Veronica Gomez, President of the Global Campus of Human Rights and one of the editors of the initiative, underlines the broader significance of this new endeavour: “We want to build a resource of enduring value that has relevance beyond COVID-19. Our unique regional and multidisciplinary approach provides a formidable asset in tackling multifaceted issues like pandemics.”

GC Human Rights Preparedness was launched

on 30 June 2020, in all GC regional hubs. We invite all members and friends of the Global Campus network - faculty, researchers, practitioners and experts, institutional partners, alumni, students and the general public - to engage with and contribute to this important new project.

Global Study Launch in Ethiopia

On November 18th the Global Campus of Human Rights, in collaboration with the University of Addis Ababa Center for Human Rights, hosted the Global Study launch in Ethiopia.

This event brought together relevant stakeholders, including high-level representatives of the Federal Government of Ethiopia, representatives from the African Union, UN agencies such as UNODC, non-government organizations such as Young Lives Ethiopia and academia.

The opening keynote speeches by level experts and the presentation of the Global Study by Manfred Nowak was followed by a panel discussion, in which further children rights experts discussed the implementation of the Global Study in Ethiopia.

This half-day conference also provided participants with the opportunity to share best practices, identify emerging trends and the main areas in need of implementation. Further topics that were discussed are a strategy for a National Action Plan and priorities such as accelerating the release of children in places of detention due to the COVID situation.



Global Campus of Human Rights at Venezia77

The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights assisted the first Press Conference of Biennale Cinema 2020 which started with the presentation of the Jury and the programme of Venezia 77, which opened with the movie *Lacci*, directed by Daniele Luchetti and starring Alba Rohrwacher, Luigi Lo Cascio, Laura Morante, Silvio Orlando, Giovanna Mezzogiorno, Adriano Giannini, and Linda Caridi.

“It’s been eleven years since the Venice International Film Festival was opened by an Italian film.” Said Alberto Barbera. *“This happy opportunity was offered by the wonderful film directed by Daniele Luchetti, an anatomy of a married couple’s problematic coexistence, as they struggle with infidelity, emotional blackmail, suffering and guilt, with an added mystery that is not revealed until the end. Supported by an outstanding cast, the film is also a sign of the promising phase in Italian cinema today, continuing the positive trend seen in recent years, which the quality of the films invited to Venice this year will surely confirm”.*

The aim of the Festival is to raise awareness and promote international cinema in all its forms as art, entertainment and as an industry, in a spirit of freedom and dialogue. The Festival also organises retrospectives and tributes to major figures as a contribution towards a better understanding of the history of cinema.

Within the framework of the Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy (CHRA), jointly developed with Picture People, the participants went to see and to debate on movies such as *Oaza*, *The Human Voice*, *Quo Vadis*, *Aida*, *Final account*, *Residue*, *Khorshid*.

The Jury of Venezia 77, chaired by Cate Blanchett, and comprising Matt Dillon, Veronika Franz, Joanna Hogg, Nicola Lagioia, Christian Petzold and Ludivine Sagnier, having viewed all 18 films in competition, has decided as follows:



GOLDEN LION for Best Film to:
NOMADLAND
by Chloé Zhao (USA)

SILVER LION - GRAND JURY PRIZE to:
NUEVO ORDEN (NEW ORDER)
by Michel Franco (Mexico, France)

SILVER LION - AWARD FOR BEST DIRECTOR to:
Kiyoshi Kurosawa
for the film **SPY NO TSUMA (WIFE OF A SPY)** (Japan)

SPECIAL JURY PRIZE to:
DOROGIE TOVARISCHI! (DEAR COMRADES!)
by Andrei Konchalovsky (Russia)

AWARD FOR BEST SCREENPLAY to:
Chaitanya Tamhane
for the film **THE DISCIPLE** (India)

COPPA VOLPI for Best Actress:
Vanessa Kirby
in the film **PIECES OF A WOMAN** by Kornél Mundruczó (Canada, Hungary)

COPPA VOLPI for Best Actor:
Pierfrancesco Favino
in the film **PADRENOSTRO** by Claudio Noce (Italy)

MARCELLO MASTROIANNI AWARD for Best Young Actor or Actress to:
Rouhollah Zamani
in the film **KHORSHID (SUN CHILDREN)** by Majid Majidi (Iran)

Ceremony for the Awarding of Diplomas of the “European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation” Academic year 2019/2020

The Ceremony of the Awarding of Diplomas of the European Master’s Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA, Global Campus Europe) for the academic year 2019/2020 and inauguration of the 24th course, academic year 2020/2021, was held on Sunday 4 October at 16.00 at Scuola Grande di San Rocco in Venice (and also available in live streaming in the Global Campus social media channels).

Welcoming the graduates, students, professors and partner organisations was Manfred Nowak, Secretary General of the Global Campus of Human Rights.

The keynote speaker was the Vice-President of the European Parliament, Fabio Massimo Castaldo MEP, and the Ceremony was accompanied by the notes of Interpreti Veneziani.

The Ceremony marked an important moment of recognition and sharing of the accomplishments of the Global Campus of Human Rights, the network composed of 100 universities worldwide specialised on human rights education, from which EMA is an important part. Participating in the Ceremony were the representatives of the partner universities; the rectors and professors of the EMA participating universities; the representatives of some of the international organisations and local government authorities which actively cooperate with the programme: the European Union - the main supporting institution of the Global Campus of Human Rights– the Municipality of Venice, UNESCO, Mouth Foundation, CoE, Berengo Foundation, and others.

An important moment of the Ceremony was again the EMAlumni Award 2020 introduced by Adam Jacobi Moller, new President of the EMAlumni Association, to the winner of this year: Laura Pasquero.

The artist Koen Vanmechelen and Fondazione Berengo generously donated an artwork by Belgian artist Koen Vanmechelen to the 2020 EMAlumni Activism Prize winner. The award is a glass sculpture entitled “Collective Memory”.

Illustrations by the Italian artist and activist, Gianluca Costantini, of very important international Human Rights Defenders were exhibited during the event to highlight



the importance of the Human Rights Education with a call to support our institution. And some were related to the #FreePatrickZaky campaign in Italy.

“This type of artistic action, which began with the silhouettes of Patrick Zaky at the University of Bologna, takes place in the middle of the epidemic of Covid19 and it must be remembered that San Rocco is the saint to whom the city of Venice turned in order to ask for pardon during the first of the three great plague epidemics, that of the fourteenth century. It is a great honour for me to exhibit my drawings in the presence of the master Tintoretto.

The activists represented for #HumanRightsEducation = #HumanRights-Defenders are among the most important of our

times, people who have also fought for our rights, some of them have paid with their lives for this fight, it is important that they are present during the handing over of diplomas of the European Master in Human Rights and Democratization, even if only as drawings. They are the true protagonists of the stories that graduates will have to protect and disseminate during their careers.

For me it is very important that art enters reality, physically. When I make a drawing, then I see a photo of a person holding it in their hand and I see that that drawing is about them... then it means that I have achieved my goal. Seeing my drawings at demonstrations, or used by activists all over the world, makes my art right, this transcends the field of art, entering the daily nature of

people, an art that makes them think and act. Mine is a political art, an outdated, uncomfortable, legally uncomfortable art. For me, art is an uncomfortable knowledge” said Gianluca Costantini.

During the ceremony, all Covid-19 prevention measures were taken by all of the participants in observance of the Italian health regulations.



INSTITUTIONAL MESSAGES:

“The challenges you will face from tomorrow onwards are many, and therefore if you are to address them, we not only need courageous activists but also courageous and brave and fearless institutions. Institutions are rightly being asked to demonstrate courage at least equal to that shown by human rights activists and defenders.”

— Fabio Massimo Castaldo, Vice President of the European Parliament

“With these few lines, I would like to address my congratulations to the students who have today received an important recognition, the degree of the European Master’s in Human Rights and Democratisation. Promoting a culture of human rights and peace is a goal for every individual. Peace is a universal concept that belongs to all peoples and nations of the world, and is achieved by starting from the right to life, the unquestionable freedoms of expression, thought, conscience and religion.”

— Luca Zaia, President of Veneto Region

“I hope that this letter of mine will be able to convey to you all the esteem that I have for the Global Campus of Human Rights and for the many young people who, thanks to this master’s degree, are provided with an irreplaceable opportunity for growth. [...] Be happy, be free, be open minded, be carriers of values, innovation and peaceful rebellion against those who would like to clip the wings of your enthusiasm and skills! Congratulation again to all of you, to the Secretary General Manfred Nowak, to all the teachers and to all those who make your education and training possible. Here the future is built. Venice will always be on your side, to support your merit and your commitment.”

— Luigi Brugnaro, Mayor of the City of Venice

“The Global Campus of Human Rights is a prominent post-graduate institution concerning education on human rights issues, and one of the leading projects of the European Union’s development policies. Even in times of Covid-19, the students of the Master course in Venice, as well as the students of the 6 Masters’ programmes in the world, can continue to counting on receiving a targeted education, allowing them to work as human rights experts.”

— Manfred Nowak, Secretary General of the Global Campus of Human Rights

“As an institution which strongly contributes to the promotion of human rights, the Global Campus of Human Rights aims to open up to a new season in which the connection with the territory of Venice and Regione del Veneto will assume growing importance. We will be the promoters of universal democratic values, in dialogue with local entities. Indeed, every day each and every one of us faces challenges linked to freedom of expression, protection of the environment, of public health and of the right to education. We believe that all the cities which host us, Venice, Buenos Aires, Pretoria, Bangkok, Yerevan, Beirut, Sarajevo and Bologna could become hubs of human rights education and an excellent investment for the future.”

— Elisabetta Noli, Administrative Director of the Global Campus of Human Rights

Online Venice School of Human Rights

The Venice School of Human Rights was founded in 2010 with the goal of studying today's challenges in the field of human rights. Due to Covid-19 restrictions it took place online via Zoom Platform with the participation of the Sakharov Fellows connected from all over the world from 21 October until 25 November 2020.

The Venice School of Human Rights allows its participants from all over the world to list these challenges and examine their reasons and possible solutions they can deploy. At the same time, the Global Campus Venice School combines theory and practice and its faculty includes prominent academics, representatives of leading human rights NGOs, members of the European Parliament and Sakharov Prize Laureates.

Courses are scheduled to take place in Venice at the premises of the Global Campus of Human Rights over a period of 8 days. The courses are taught in English by internationally-recognised experts and academics in the fields of human rights belonging to partner universities and other organisations that support Global Campus projects and endeavours.

Since 2016, the European Parliament's Sakharov Fellowship Programme has offered up to 14 human rights defenders selected from non-EU countries the opportunity to follow a two-week intensive training course in Brussels and at the Global Campus of Human Rights in Venice. Under the Sakharov Fellowship training programme, human rights defenders enhance their knowledge of EU and international human rights frameworks, policies and mechanisms and develop capacities to advocate for and effect positive change to protect human rights.



While the programme in Brussels focuses on EU policies and tools in support of human rights defenders, accessing funding for human rights defenders, developing communications skills, and raising awareness of specific security challenges facing human rights defenders, in Venice, Fellows are enrolled in the Venice School of Human Rights, which combines academic teaching and the sharing of the Fellow's experiences with an international audience of practitioners in human rights. The aim is to develop knowledge of international human rights law, tools and mechanisms and how to use these to effect change on the ground.

Here below some of the keynote speakers who took part in the past editions of the Venice School:

- VS 2019
Press Conference with **Lorent Saleh**, 2017 Sakharov Prize Laureate
- VS 2017
Press Conference with **Lamyia Haji Bashar**, 2016 Sakharov Prize Laureate
- VS 2016
Opening Lecture by **Hauwa Ibrahim**, 2005 Sakharov Prize Laureate



Online Global Campus of Human Rights Conversations

We live in difficult times. We are facing a global health crisis unlike any experienced in the recent past. The coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) is exacerbating human suffering, widening inequalities and threatening peoples' livelihoods. The UN Secretary General has described it as not just a health crisis but a human crisis that is fast becoming a human rights crisis.

This is because it is attacking societies at their very core. In this situation, a focus on investing in the education of young generations should be a non-negotiable requirement in order to face the future in a spirit of hope. Education will be at the core of a sustainable future also for the city of Venice, which is now inaugurating the celebrations for its 1,600-year anniversary (to be continued in 2021), and become one of the driving forces in the middle of this pandemic both for our local and global community.

The Global Campus of Human Rights wishes to provide a space for an exchange of views on the possible futures for Venice, and to do so will host a series of "online Global Campus of Human Rights Conversations".

Our first edition featured the following contributors:

Tiziana Lippiello, Rector of Ca' Foscari University, Venice

Paola Mar, Councillor of the City of Venice, with mandate on the relationship with the University

From the side of the Global Campus of Human Rights: Manfred Nowak, Secretary General

George Ulrich, Academic Director

Elisabetta Noli, Administrative Director

This Conversation provided an occasion for our staff, professors, alumni, students and local partners to actively participate in the discussion about the future development of the city of Venice, which hosts the Headquarters of the Global Campus of Human Rights at the Monastery of San Nicolò in Lido.

The first online Global Campus of Human Rights Conversation took place on 25 November from 10.30 until 11.30.

Campaigns

In Solidarity with Beirut

Donation of molecular tests for
RNA SARS-CoV-2 by Lifebrain
Group

In Solidarity with Beirut

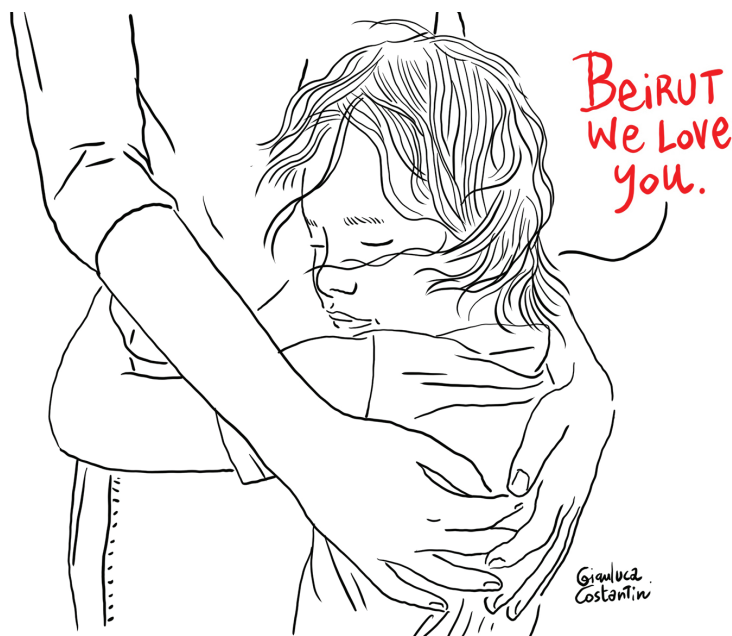
The Global Campus of Human Rights is organising this fundraising appeal to support colleagues and students in the Global Campus Arab World located at the premises of the Saint Joseph University in Beirut.

Following the devastating explosion in Beirut, Lebanon, on August 4, and the terrible consequences of at least 200 deaths including many children, missing people, thousands injured, billions in property damage and an estimated 300,000 people ending up without homes, the Global Campus of Human Rights expresses solidarity with students, professors and staff colleagues in Beirut, seat of the Global Campus Arab World located in the premises of the Saint Joseph University.

Our thoughts go out to all of them, their families, their friends and their communities. Since 2017, the Global Campus of Human Rights has been fortunate to work in partnership with Saint Joseph University, which is an active member of our network of 100 Universities around the world and has hosted many of our important events in the region.

The explosions that rocked Beirut came under already dire circumstances, as Lebanon struggles with the Covid-19 pandemic, mistrust in public institutions and many economic and social problems. The level of this tragedy now requires not only our expression of support and solidarity but all our efforts including financial contributions and donations.

The Global Campus of Human Rights is now kindly requesting all our dear friends and members of our vast academic network to contribute to this emergency. Please donate now to support colleagues and students of GC Arab World.



Donation of molecular tests for RNA SARS-CoV-2 by Lifebrain Group

The Global Campus of Human Rights is proud to have the well-known company Lifebrain Group represented by Professor Michael Havel as one of the institutional donors for a second consecutive year and in particular would like to express its sincere gratitude for the recent donation of molecular tests for RNA SARS-CoV-2 for the staff, faculty, students and participants at their Venice Headquarters. This generous gesture will provide more safety and organisation to the different Global Campus activities scheduled by the institution during this pandemic.

The gratitude of the Global Campus of Human Rights is extended to the Lifebrain colleagues – administrative and medical personnel - working for the laboratories in Padua and Mestre who have taken care of all the organisational and medical operations to make the testing possible.

Founded in 2013 by Prof. Michael Havel and Dr. Bernard Auer, Lifebrain is now the largest provider of laboratory clinical analysis in the fields of clinical chemistry, hematology, immunochemistry, microbiology, molecular biology, cytology and pathology. Professor Havel is co-founder and CEO of the Lifebrain Group and has successfully finalized more than 120 acquisitions in the last 5 years. In the past, it has successfully founded FutureLAB (2004-2009), the result of the merger of two groups of Austrian laboratories, increased by 40 acquisitions of small and medium-sized laboratories in Austria and in six European countries.

Prior to this endeavour, Professor Havel worked in the hospital division of the University of Vienna as a professor of surgery (1992-2001), focusing on heart, thoracic and vascular surgery. In this role he published more than 350 academic papers and was an esteemed speaker at national and international congresses. Professor Havel has gained extensive experience in business management, mainly with the financing and management of private companies.

In 2013 he founded Lifebrain AG with his previous management team and has been Lifebrain CEO ever since. In 2019, the Lifebrain Group strengthened its presence in 16 regions with more than 300 locations. Thanks to its network of laboratories, excellence in professional skills and state-of-the-art technologies, Lifebrain is now the fastest growing group of laboratories in Europe. More information at: www.lifebrain.it



You can contribute greatly to the success of the Global Campus in the following ways:

- donations help to fund the everyday functioning of our institution;
- companies, charitable foundations and institutions can sponsor and partner our initiatives, linking their brand to the prestigious academic network of the Global Campus of Human Rights;
- supporting the scholarship programmes helps many qualified students to start their career and enter the job market, in particular through internships and fellowships;
- contributing to the Global Campus of Human Rights research projects.

Your support allows us to go forward in the pursuit of our vision and to make the Global Campus a convener for those who share our goals.

You can also donate your il 5x1000 from IRPEF (CF 94054110278).



GENERAL DONATION

This donation helps fund our everyday functions



SPECIFIC DONATION

Support scholarships, internships, fellowships and professorships



IN MEMORIAM

Celebrate a loved one's life by making a donation in their memory

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or contact our Fundraising Office at fundraising@gchumanrights.org

For more information, contact the
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