



Empowering Current and Future Human Rights Defenders

The vision of the Global Campus of Human Rights is to foster new generations of human rights defenders able to contribute to a world in which human dignity, equality, freedom, human security, sustainable development, democracy, the rule of law and respect for all human rights are realised.

In 2021, we felt the urgency to implement our vision in a more vigorous way and step up our social responsibility through brand new programmes. Discover more in the next pages.

The Global Campus and the SDGs

Our work focuses primarily on the achievement of



Global Campus of Human Rights
Annual Report 2021

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Welcome



Verónica Gómez — President

The Global Campus of Human Rights presents its 2021 Annual Report recording the main outcomes of 12 months of active collaboration in capacity building and promotion of human rights and democracy. During this challenging period, our regional hubs in Venice, Sarajevo, Pretoria, Bangkok, Yerevan, Buenos Aires and Beirut; our special project in East Timor; and our partner universities and stakeholders all over the world continued to deliver education with regional and interdisciplinary approaches, experiential learning, cross-cultural exchanges and networking opportunities. The Report provides insights on the achievements of the Global Campus' hallmark seven regional Master's programmes, their common activities and research outlets, and the continuation of their efforts to build capacity and raise awareness on human rights and democracy around the world. The Report also highlights the three innovative and very successful

open access MOOCs offered during 2021; the specialised training courses with a focus on human rights defenders; the unique endeavours to foster the relationship between human rights and the arts; and the various activities devoted to the promotion children's rights through education and research, including child-led activities in several regions of the world.

These outcomes were possible thanks to the financial support of the European Union, Right Livelihood, and other donors, as well as the co-funding and unwavering commitment of our partner universities and the dedication shown by our staff at headquarters in Venice and at our regional hubs.

As President of the Global Campus, it is an honour for me to share this Annual Report with our readers.

In November 2021, Verónica Gómez was appointed as a judge of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights for the period 2022-2027. The Court, based in Costa Rica, is one of the three regional courts for the protection of human rights, together with the European Court of Human Rights and the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights. Verónica will continue to exercise her functions as GC President. We wish her a lot of success in this new endeavour!

Foreword



Manfred Nowak — Secretary General

The Global Campus is the world's largest network of universities specialised in human rights education. We aim to provide young people with the necessary knowledge and skills to become human rights professionals and with the attitude to internalise and respect the values of human rights in their daily lives towards other human beings and society at large. Universities, as the main institutions of higher learning, not only have a responsibility for preparing young people for their professional lives, but they also have a social responsibility towards society, above all in times of crisis. This is particularly true for universities specialised in human rights. As members of the Global Campus of Human Rights, our universities recognise their responsibility to provide a safe space for human rights defenders at risk and, in particular, for students and scholars, who are persecuted in their own countries for standing up for the values of human rights, democracy and the rule of law. Thanks to our partnership with the European Parliament, we have a close relationship with the Sakharov Laureates and young Sakharov Fellows, whom we have involved for many years in our Venice School on Human Rights Defenders. We make them and other participants familiar with the mechanisms for the protection of human rights and democracy, which the EU, the Council of Europe, the United Nations and other organisations offer them in their day-to-day struggles for a better life in their own countries.

Thanks to our partnership with Right Livelihood, a foundation which for more than 40 years has awarded the *Alternative Nobel Peace Prize* to grassroots activists fighting for the environment, sustainability and human rights, we cooperate closely with and provide

more visibility to Right Livelihood Laureates as role models for our future human rights defenders. At the core of our partnership with Right Livelihood are children and young people, and we mainstream children's rights into all our global activities, assisting in the empowerment of children as future change-makers.

The year 2021 marks a turning point in the history of the Global Campus, driven by dramatic developments on our globe. On the initiative of the European Parliament, we organised a special training course in July for students from Belarus who were expelled from their universities because they had demonstrated with thousands of others against the election fraud and brutal repression in this European dictatorship. Our colleagues and students of the Arab Master developed a web series in honour of Lokman Slim, a Lebanese intellectual and anti-Hezbollah activist who had promoted a culture of remembrance, and was killed in early February 2021. The students at the Asia-Pacific Master launched a Facebook campaign to call attention to the arbitrary arrest and disappearance in March 2021 of their fellow student Saw Lin Htet, who had joined a public protest against the military junta in Myanmar while conducting field research in his home country. After the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan in August, the Global Campus, together with many close allies, assisted in the evacuation of many Afghan intellectuals under threat and started, with generous financial support from the European Commission, Right Livelihood and other private foundations, a programme of providing a safe space for Afghan scholars and students at member universities in our global network.

I am grateful to our donors and our universities for their spontaneous support and hope that our scholars and students at risk initiative will develop into a regular programme of the Global Campus beyond Afghanistan.

The active participation of children in all matters that directly concern them is one of the most important principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Global Campus, therefore, developed many projects on children's rights and concerns with the active participation and involvement of children around the globe: during the preparation and implementation of the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty; during the Global Campus International Conference on Climate Change and Child Participation, organised in May 2021 by our friends of the Caucasus Master in Yerevan; and, most recently, during the preparation of our International Conference held at the Kathmandu School of Law in February 2022. This is the first fully child-led conference of

the Global Campus. In many national, regional and global consultations, children between the ages of 12 and 18 from all regions of the Global Campus discussed various topics and finally decided that *Mental Health of Children* is the main theme to be addressed at the conference. This reflects, on the one hand, the mental stress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic for children all over the world, and on the other hand, the uncertainty of growing up in a world threatened by the global climate and environmental crisis, armed conflicts, gross and systematic human rights violations and a weakness of national, regional and international governance structures. In Fridays for Future strikes and similar global activities, children teach us that they are experts in their own rights, that they are highly concerned about the future of our planet and the current state of world politics, and that they are willing to take responsibility as change-makers towards a better future. The Global Campus stands ready to support them in their global movement-building activities.



Students of the 2021 Summer School in Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy, Venice.

Awareness-raising through the arts: poetry from torture



On 16 July 2021, the headquarters of the Global Campus of Human Rights became a torture centre by hosting the performance *White Torture - Underground Poetry*, written and directed by Lorent Saleh. Lorent, 2017 Sakharov Prize Laureate, is a Venezuelan human rights defender and activist who was repeatedly detained by the Venezuelan authorities in LaTumba, an underground prison run by the secret service in Caracas. Developed in collaboration with the audiovisual artist Zoltan Kunckel, the play presents torture in the form of images, textures and poems written by Lorent during his years of imprisonment and torture. The play *White Torture - Underground Poetry*

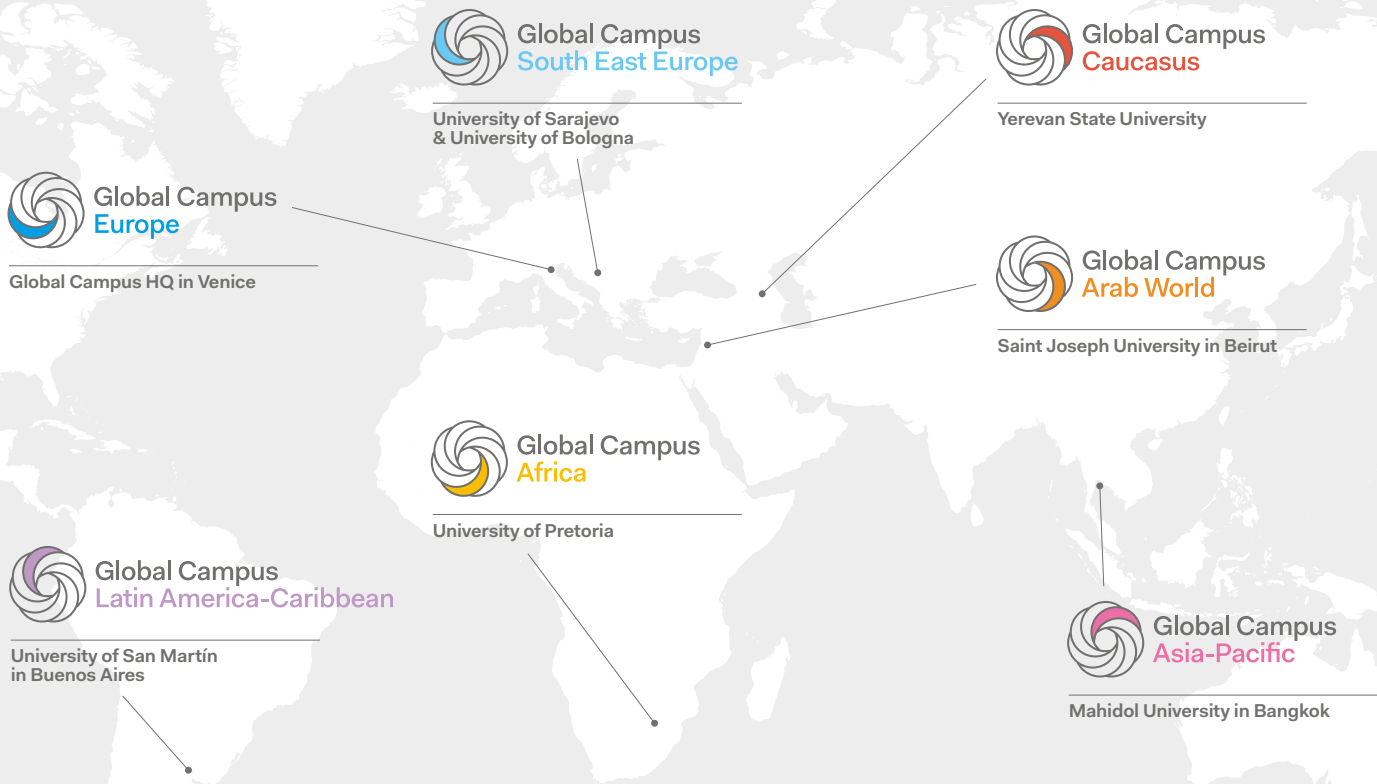
was staged within the framework of the first annual conference on the Global State of Human Rights, jointly organised by the European Parliament and the Global Campus.

The audience is drawn into the intimacy and intense suffering of a conscientious prisoner who is exposed to cold white light for 24 hours a day and faces the morbidity and inclemency of an invisible torturer.

The play delivers an especially powerful experience for the conference guests as they participate actively in the performance either as torturers or victims.

Watch a short video:
<https://youtu.be/snVRsKU7VHI>

The network



The Global Campus of Human Rights, the biggest network of human rights educators worldwide, draws its unique resource-base from almost 100 member universities organised in seven regional hubs. Our multi-level identity – global, regional and national – provides a distinctive vantage point and enables us to be innovative, proactive and responsive to emerging developments. The Academic Affairs Committee, established in 2019 to further connect our regional hubs, provides a venue to coordinate activities, quickly circulate ideas, pilot new joint initiatives, and mainstream successful educational approaches. This is how the Global Campus network keeps on increasing its capacity towards offering support and inspiration to thousands of young people annually. As an important emerging trend, many of our regional Master's programmes are increasingly attracting students also from

other regions, thus further reinforcing a shared commitment to global integration. We wish to thank our members, alumni and partners in Africa, the Arab World, Asia-Pacific, Caucasus, Europe, Latin America-Caribbean and South East Europe for their invaluable work and untiring commitment.

The European Union, our main donor, has repeatedly affirmed the exceptional contribution of our educational network to strengthening human rights and democracy in the world. And, in fact, the Global Campus features prominently in the 2021–2027 Global Europe Human Rights and Democracy programme. This demonstrates an unwavering resolve to invest in the education of young change-makers and the continued trust placed by the EU in the Global Campus of Human Rights.

The year in review



Elisabetta Noli
Administrative
Director

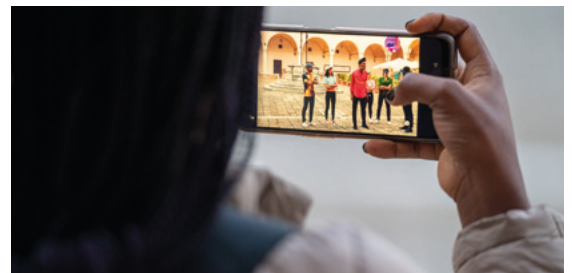
In the words of some scholars, 2021 was a new *annus horribilis* for human rights and human rights defenders. News and images from Belarus, Myanmar, Egypt, Syria, Sudan, the Philippines, Russia, Israel, Hong Kong and Afghanistan, to mention just a few countries, quickly come to our mind. Well-known figures like Alexei Navalny (awarded the 2021 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought by the European Parliament), Patrick Zaki (released in Egypt on parole in December 2021), and Pham Doan Trang (sentenced to nine years in jail in Vietnam in the same month), are outnumbered by many less famous or unknown ones – including some of our students, like Saw Lin Htet, a Myanmar student of the Global Campus Asia-Pacific programme.

Widening structural discrimination, democratic erosion (from within and from authoritarian states), misinformation and hate speech (often masked as free speech), and use of the pandemic to crack down on dissent are among the most debated challenges to human rights and democracy. In this context, human rights education and access to knowledge and information are crucial to the work and empowerment of human rights defenders; and we are certainly proud of our contribution: for instance, our Venice School for Human Right Defenders in addition to our Master's Programmes. In an informal and ad hoc way, we have hosted and protected scholars and students at risk – and let's not forget that for some of our students, simply taking a Master's Programme in human rights could pose a risk. However, after the Taliban takeover, our

network felt the urgent need to react in a concerted manner. Like many organisations around the world, we wanted to help Afghan human rights defenders to reach a safe place where they can continue their important work. Together with some of our partners, we started working on operational steps in the establishment of a scholarship programme as early as September; many of our member universities soon joined in, committing to host one or more Afghan scholars at their institution. Our alumni were offering volunteer support from the very beginning, including helping with visa paperwork. The European Commission agreed on an emergency support grant and Right Livelihood matched the EU support shortly after. As a human rights university network, establishing a special programme for threatened scholars in times of crises is a priority.

There is more good news: young human rights defenders are on the rise. Children and young people are hungry for knowledge and striving to have their voices be heard. Protection of the environment and biodiversity, rights of indigenous communities, antiracism, and protection from big tech are some of the challenges young people are increasingly taking charge of. This year we involved children and young people in some of our core activities, and, thanks to them, we are increasing and improving the range of initiatives that proactively engage with the younger generation. You will discover more in the following pages.

On the right,
the performance
Free To Be
by Raizes Teatro
(at GC headquarters,
October 2021)
in support of activists
and artists deprived
of their freedom
of expression.



David Maria Sassoli — *in memoriam*

**Former President
of the European Parliament**

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 and also within the public at large, must be an absolute priority. The future of Europe depends on it.

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



The Global Campus, together with the international community, was deeply saddened by the sudden death of David Sassoli on 11 January 2022. He was a friend and a close supporter. During his presidency, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the European Parliament and strengthened our cooperation on the Sakharov Fellowship Programme through the Venice School of Human Rights and other joint activities, including the first Global State of Human Rights conference in July 2021.

1st Global State of Human Rights Conference

On 16 July 2021, during the week of the famous Redentore festival in Venice, we held the first annual conference on the Global State of Human Rights, jointly organised with the European Parliament. Taking place in a hybrid format in Venice, Brussels and online, it was opened by late EP President David Sassoli together with GC President Verónica Gómez. The conference, attended by representatives of the EU, the UN, national governments, academia and civil society, revolved around three main topics:

- A pandemic of impunity: why does accountability matter?
- Improving the business and human rights relationship: what role can due diligence and a value-centred approach play?
- What is a values-based foreign policy and what is it worth when responding to human rights and democracy issues around the world?

We were honored to be joined by many esteemed speakers from local, national and international organisations, like Michelle Bachelet (UN High Commissioner for Human Rights), Jutta Urpilainen (European Commissioner for International Partnerships), Didier Reynders (European Commissioner for Justice), Agnès Callamard (Secretary General of Amnesty International), Denis Mukwege (Nobel Peace Prize Laureate), and Benedetto Della Vedova (Italian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs). The conference was closed with a theatre performance by Sakharov Prize Laureate Lorent Saleh on *White Torture - Underground Poetry*.

The second edition of the conference will be held in Venice in July 2022.



Maria Arena, Chair of the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI), participating from Brussels, and Lotte Leicht, former EU Director at Human Rights Watch, addressing the audience from Venice.



Workshop on democratisation for Belarusian students at risk



George Ulrich
Academic Director

Despite brutal repression and systematic human rights violations, Belarus has seen the emergence of an unprecedented mass protest movement against electoral fraud and authoritarianism in the country. Many students who joined the protests have been expelled from university or are at high risk. In this context, the European Parliament's Democracy Support and Election Coordination Group asked for Global Campus support in developing a workshop on democratisation and human rights for Belarusian students who are encountering problems to continue their current education in retaliation for their involvement in pro-democracy protests. The workshops took place in July and involved 11 participants. Moderated by Katarzyna Gardapkhadze (former First Deputy Director of the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights), it covered topics such as democratisation, international and European human rights protection systems, transitional justice, the role of women and youth in democracy

building, and the EU External Human Rights Policy and Eastern Neighbourhood Policy. It had a practical, applied focus. Participants had the opportunity to meet highly qualified independent experts and representatives of the European Parliament and to engage in discussion, networking and in an exchange of experiences amongst themselves.

The feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive. It was valued in terms of content but, perhaps even more so, as a sign of attention and support to this group of young people who have found themselves marginalised and in a very precarious situation. The opportunity for participants to connect with experts, policymakers and peers was especially appreciated.

Given the persistence of political repression affecting students in Belarus and elsewhere, the Global Campus may seek to replicate the experience and organise workshops of a similar nature from time to time.



Venice School for Human Rights Defenders



Alberta Rocca
Project Manager

The Global Campus has recently placed great emphasis on human rights defenders by reviewing the content of the annual Venice School of Human Rights and developing an intense one-week training programme. Human rights defenders are selected globally and come to Venice to expand their advocacy skills, learn to engage strategically with UN mechanisms, develop strategies and techniques, network among themselves, and review cases and best practices based on their experience.

In 2016, we joined forces with the European Parliament, which every year, through the Sakharov Fellowship Programme, selects up to 14 human rights defenders to take part in the Venice School and meet with other human rights defenders.

We were grateful to be able to host the 2021 edition in presence at our Venice headquarters, with most of the lecturers

joining in person. Among the main topics discussed were gender-based violence and conflict-related sexual violence, LGBTIQ+ rights, and environmental protection and indigenous rights. Keynote speakers for the opening sessions brought testimonies from the dramatic events in Belarus with 2020 Sakharov Laureates Veranika Tsapkala and Volha Kavalkova, representatives of the Belarusian opposition. Additionally, Hareer Hashim, Najiba Haidary and 2012 Right Livelihood Laureate Sima Samar took part in a roundtable exchange on the Afghanistan humanitarian crisis.

We were also very proud of hosting Vic Barrett, the Honduran-American climate activist who is among the 21 youth plaintiffs suing the US government to take action in the groundbreaking case *Juliana v. United States*, a lawsuit that could change the future of climate change litigation worldwide.



My call to action for an international community would definitely be to look at your neighbours, to look at the people next to you, to figure out who's most vulnerable where you live and to do everything you can to speak up for them, in particular in the context of how the climate crisis might be impacting them differently than it's impacting other people. Vic Barrett

The participants of the 2021 Venice School in the courtyard of the GC headquarters. Kalliope Agapiou-Josephides, GC Europe faculty, and Najiba Naidari, activist and GC Europe student (2021-22 cohort), at a roundtable on the situation of Afghan women.



Performing for tortured and murdered human rights activists



Alessandro Ienzi, lawyer, actor and alumnus of the Global Campus Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy, is the founding director of Raizes Teatro, a production company that promotes human rights. Their powerful performances were integrated into some of the activities that took place in 2021 at our Venice headquarters. Specifically, *My name is Patrick Zaki - 45 Days* is a monologue by Alessandro playing Joker, a new Prometheus lost in the historical events that followed September 11.

The show is a reinterpretation of the incarceration of the young Egyptian researcher and the continuous postponement of his bail every 45 days.

The work presents a mix of styles and languages: Italian, Spanish, French and English alternate in the words of the Joker/Prometheus/Zaki, chained to the last coast of Egypt for having offered men the sacred fire of freedom; he is the victim of the gods who fight for supremacy and power.

“The detention of Patrick Zaki is a setback to all the democratic principles of which we feel we are promoters and creators as citizens of the Western world; values that we would have even wanted to export with wars, and with financing of terrorist groups, according to the international political strategies now known to us all.” Alessandro Ienzi

New Afghan Scholarship Programme kicks off



**Imke Steimann
and Julia Runte**
Programme
coordination

The Taliban takeover in Afghanistan uprooted large parts of Afghan society, placing hundreds of thousands of individuals at risk because of their political views, activism, previous work and affiliation with international organisations and NGOs. Many human rights defenders, journalists, students and scholars found themselves unable to continue their important work towards securing a free and democratic country where human rights are protected.

“Sometimes, giving an opportunity for the ones who go through a trauma can contribute to their recovery process as Afghan Scholars and Students at Risk by GCHR did it to me.”

Anonymous for security concerns

From this crisis, the Global Campus stepped into action on several levels. As an immediate response, we supported evacuation efforts and mobilised our wide alumni network for volunteer support. At the same time, we reached out to our member universities to ask them for their availability to host Afghan scholars and students. After having secured

financial support from the European Union and Right Livelihood, and with additional contributions from Kahane Foundation and Fondazione di Venezia, we created the Scholarship Programme for Threatened Afghan Scholars and Students. We are now placing scholars and students at our member universities to continue their work and studies for the 2021/22 academic year and beyond, especially those who are under threat because of their research and activism, or at particular risk of exclusion from academia because of their gender or ethnicity. Recipients receive a living allowance, along with the safety to continue to study and thrive in an academic environment. With this programme, we hope to provide a small contribution to empowering the Afghan human rights community now in exile, to offer young Afghan changemakers a perspective to continue their work and activism abroad, and to draw on the strength of our global human rights network.

As of January 2021, we have 30 recipients firmly placed at multiple universities in our network. We are continuing to receive requests and are working to place recipients within our network.



Image courtesy of an Afghan female artist and recipient of the Global Campus scholarship programme.

“After the fall of Kabul I was rescued and came to Bucharest with my family. Currently, in addition to being in a good security situation, we are learning languages and my family members are following up on their education. I am going to officially start teaching at the University of Bucharest in the new semester. I believe that the entanglement of developments in the world makes it necessary to discuss politics in crisis-stricken countries like Afghanistan. It is up to all students in the field of politics to study and teach the world developments according to the systemic nature of the world and the intertwining of world developments. I would like to thank my good colleagues at the University of Bucharest, and especially Professor Radu Carp, and the Global Campus, which sponsors my attendance.” Dr. Zaker Hussein Ershad

Young, powerful voices



Manu Krishan
Global Study
Programme Manager

'Unfortunately, we often see that young people are invited to participate at the very end of the decision-making process, when it is too late for their opinion to be fully taken into account,' said UN Secretary-General's Youth Envoy Jayathma Wickramanayake.

In 2021, we worked hard to avoid this and instead to fulfill the Global Campus' strategic objective to mainstream the empowerment of children and youth across all regions of the Global Campus.

With special thanks to our partnership with Right Livelihood, we were able to engage with children and young people in many projects and events. Some are activists, some have lived experiences of dramatic human

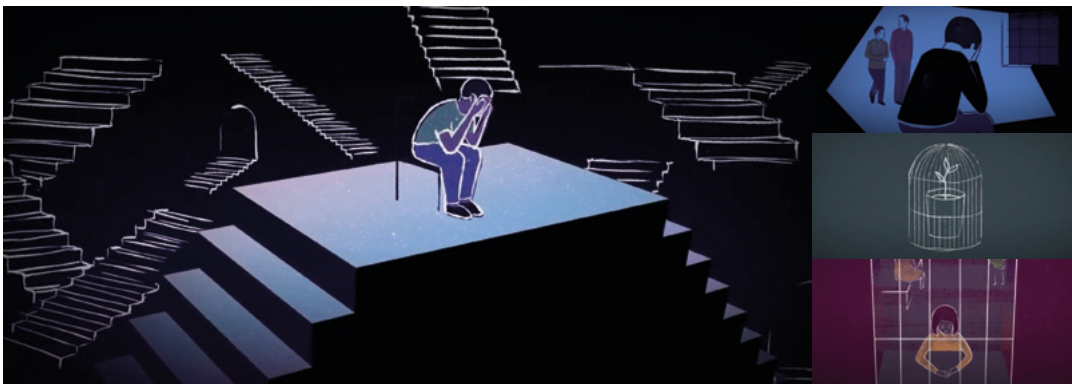
rights violations, while others have become passionate about human rights topics from participating in our training programmes, especially on the environment and technology. Child participation, one of the core principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, is something we take very seriously: we are grateful to the young people who have joined our journey and with whom we are developing a new path forward that includes reciprocal learning and inspiration.

Thanks to our project partner Terre des Hommes, we met Angela Vasile; a young graphic designer and member of the Child and Youth Advisory Group of the World Congress on Justice With Children that took place in November 2021, an initiative in which the



As a graphic designer, I think the animation was made in such a fantastic way. The story in the video was presented in such a breathtaking way that it made me want to watch more and to find out more and more. But as a human being, it made me cry. It is simply horrific to watch those statistics (that more than 7 million children in the world are deprived of liberty).

Angela Vasile



Screenshots of the animated video on the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty available in four languages (English, Spanish, French and Arabic) at shorturl.at/hxJQR. The short video was developed in collaboration with Right Livelihood within the follow-up dissemination and advocacy activities after the presentation of the Global Study to the UN General Assembly in 2019. We invite organisations, schools and individuals (including young people) working on or interested in children's rights to use and share the animated video.

Global Campus was strongly involved. As a young person who experienced deprivation of liberty personally, she was invited to be part of the development of a Global Campus animated video on the prevention of child detention and helped us create the call to action that features at the end of the video.

The animated video was presented during the 2021 Fundamental Rights Forum of the European Union. Angela shared her perspective on the process in which she was involved: from taking part in regional and

international workshops run by Terre des Hommes with young people directly deprived or formerly deprived of liberty, to giving advice on the animation style and the storyboard, to answering questions like “What does freedom mean to you?” and recording the answers for us.

The child-friendly animated video on the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty was implemented as a team effort under the supervision of the GC Online Programmes department.



Josep Borrell Fontelles

**High Representative of the European Union
for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**

Supporting the Global Campus of Human Rights has been a very important decision. Your global network and various programmes focusing on human rights have never been more relevant than today.

We are witnessing an increased pushback against the universality and indivisibility of human rights and a backsliding of democracy. New challenges such as the digital transition and climate change are posing new threats to human rights. This is not an abstract observation. In our own neighbourhood, governments are increasingly questioning women's rights, persecuting journalists, curtailing academic freedoms and freedom of assembly, harassing human rights defenders and generally closing off the public space. The COVID-19 pandemic and the emergency health measures have accelerated these trends. Against this backdrop, the EU must be more than a moral force. We must go beyond declaratory

politics and be more assertive and action-oriented. To this end, the new EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy sets out a roadmap establishing priorities that are built on 5 pillars: protecting and empowering individuals; building resilient, inclusive and democratic societies; promoting a global system for human rights and democracy; addressing new-technology opportunities and challenges; and delivering by working together. Ensuring quality education is a key horizontal priority to implement the new EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy.

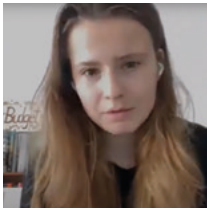
Education empowers individuals to not only claim and uphold their own rights but also the rights of others.

I am proud that, for more than 20 years, the EU has supported the Global Campus of Human Rights and its regional Master's programmes across the world. You contribute to further advancing universal values for all. Your cross-regional structure places you in a unique position to translate universal human rights into national and local contexts, which is one of the aims of the Action Plan. From advocacy to training, there are many opportunities for the Global Campus to be involved. We also strongly encourage you to engage with civil society and put your expertise to work in analysing new and future challenges to global human rights.

Young people take the lead

In May 2021, our annual International Conference was co-organised and hosted by Yerevan State University, the hub of our Caucasus Master's Programme. Held in a hybrid format, the event focused on *Climate Change and Children: Impact, Rights and Participation*. We were pleased to be joined by renowned speakers like David Boyd (UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment), Nina Ferencic (UNICEF Senior Regional Adviser), and Andrea Wiktorin (Head of EU Delegation to Armenia). We also had the privilege of welcoming a keynote speaker from Fridays for Future, the German climate activist Luisa Neubauer.

Luisa conveyed the message that children do not only have a right to actively participate in all matters that directly affect them, but that they are already taking the lead in pushing political and economic leaders to take the global climate crisis seriously by radically changing the current global economic and political system. Together we discussed the need for a legally-enforceable human right of future generations to a clean and healthy environment, strategic climate-related litigation initiated by children, and the idea of a trusteeship for future generations and even rights of animals, nature and Mother Earth.



People don't fight for rights they don't know they have. And it makes a big difference if you feel like something is unjust or if you know that you have a right to something.

Luisa Neubauer

Global Campus International Conference

Climate Change and Children: Impact, Rights and Participation



A student from the Ayb School in Yerevan at the GC International Conference on climate change and child participation presenting a self-developed biodegradable substitute for plastic bags.

New cutting-edge MOOCs attract aspiring human rights defenders



Angela Melchiorre
Online Programmes
Manager

2021 was an exciting and inspiring year for our online programmes. There was an increased number of participants compared to the previous year, new top-notch lecturers, and, especially, the addition of contemporary subject areas for which more and more trained human rights defenders are needed. In fact, in addition to scaling up the online methodological support of many programmes and events, the Global Campus offered three new successful massive open online courses (MOOCs): Business and Human Rights, Child Participation and the Right to a Sustainable Environment, and Children's Rights and Technology in the Digital Age. The latter, designed and moderated by two of our alumnae and Wiebke Lamer (former Director of the EMA Programme - GC Europe), attracted a very committed audience concerned about the impact of big tech on children – a very niche topic within the global offer of MOOCs. Many of the participants joined with a double or even triple role (parent, professional, activist/volunteer) and highlighted the pressing need to further promote the course among teachers, policymakers, children and youth as a way to better prepare them for the challenges and opportunities offered by new technology.

Thanks to Right Livelihood, with whom we developed this and other MOOCs, we had the privilege of hosting an extraordinary

lecturer, Edward Snowden, who spoke in his dual capacity of whistleblower-technologist and parent.

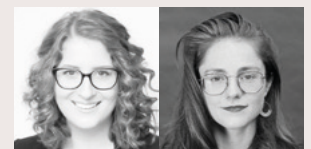
The MOOC Children's Rights and Technology in the Digital Age attracted the interest of high school-aged participants as well. This is not a new audience of our MOOCs, but this time we made a point of reaching out and deepening the connection with them. The experience was extremely rewarding and allowed for further involvement of youth. For instance, at the 2021 Fundamental Rights Forum organised in Vienna by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Flavia, one of the MOOC participants and an Italian high school student, joined us to discuss how to engage youth in becoming empowered agents in the fight against online mis- and disinformation.

Anticipating the interest of a young audience, we invested a lot of effort in creating tailored and inspiring materials, easy-to-digest courseware, guidance and explanation, as well as live webinars. We were rewarded by learning that, for the MOOC on Child Participation and the Right to a Sustainable Environment, 40% of the enrolled participants were between 19 and 24 years old, and 11% under 18. In general, with our MOOCs we strive to explain to activists that their dreams and idealism can legally be grounded within a rights framework.

Alumnae at work

Laura Thomi and Meredith Veit graduated from the GC Europe Master's Programme in 2019. Among their research interests is the relationship between technology and the rights of vulnerable groups like children who may not fully understand the implications of exposure

to futuristic, and sometimes problematic, technological developments. They are currently working on a new GC online training on online mis- and disinformation for young people under age of 18 that is being launched in early 2022.





I didn't really expect this MOOC to be so interesting! At the beginning I thought that maybe I was too young or English is not my mother tongue. But I understood almost everything and improved my writing skills thanks to the weekly discussions. What I liked the most was about *personal mental health of children and youth*, because in those statements I really saw myself, reading about feelings such as anxiety, lack of sleep, anger, sadness, no desire for doing anything ... these are situations I noticed even before I started the course and they were very much related to the time I spent on social media. And after reading about this I started to feel better. Now if I use my phone for more than one hour I decide by myself that I won't use it, for example, until the evening. I've started making my own rules — not my parents or other people around me. Flavia A., high school student from Italy



MOOC on Child Participation and the Right to a Sustainable Environment, screenshot of the video teaser. David Boyd, UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment, was one of the MOOC's lecturers.



Edward Snowden

Freedom of the Press Foundation
and 2019 Right Livelihood Laureate

Technically it is not especially plausible or practical to be able to limit all of the information that's being collected about you [by digital technologies] as an adult... much less your children who make mistakes 10 times a minute because they're learning how to be a person. What can we do? I think this is where we have to say, in the first instance, *we care*. Because that's really what

matters. The fact that you are hopefully still watching this video right now puts you as a member of the elite exception, who recognises what's happening in the world, has an opinion on the fact that it can be better, hopefully, that it should be better. And the result of that is that over time, collective action will mean that it will be better.

As a lecturer in our MOOC Children's Rights and Technology in the Digital Age, Snowden gave an interview about protecting children's privacy in the age of hyper-surveillance.

Events and programmes 2021 — a sample

FEBRUARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar on Deinstitutionalisation of Children with Disabilities in South East Europe - GC South East Europe and ERMA Alumni Network, online 	
MARCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme for International Electoral Observers, online • Web series on The Anatomy of Political Crimes in Lebanon - GC Arab World, online 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar with the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) on enacting the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, online
APRIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar with Yetnebersh Nigussie on Children with Disabilities - Global Campus Alumni and Right Livelihood, online 	
MAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GC International Conference on Climate Change and Children: Impact, Rights and Participation - GC Caucasus, Yerevan/hybrid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course on Judicial Enforcement of Socio-Economic Rights - GC Africa, online
JUNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Classroom on the COVID-19 Pandemic and Economic and Social Rights - GC South East Europe, online 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's rights seminar on strategic litigation and presentation of the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, Bilbao (Spain) - University of Deusto, in presence
JULY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinar Reflections on Afro-descendants in the Americas - GC Latin America and Caribbean, online • Workshop on Democratisation and Human Rights for students from Belarus, Venice/hybrid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Conference on the Global State of Human Rights, Venice/Brussels/hybrid • International virtual conference on Emerging Research in Politics, Development and Human Rights - GC Asia-Pacific, online • 4th Global Campus Conversation on Possible Futures for Venice, online
AUGUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16th edition of the Summer School in Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy, Venice/hybrid 	
SEPTEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMA Graduation and GC Governing Bodies meetings, Venice, in presence 	
OCTOBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Fundamental Rights Forum, Vienna/hybrid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity, Venice, in presence
NOVEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Congress on Justice with Children, online • Lucy Smith Memorial Lecture on the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, Oslo, in presence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-Ministerial Committee for Human Rights of the Italian Senate (CIDU) meeting on Business & Human Rights with participation of GC President Véronica Gómez, Rome/hybrid
DECEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation Ceremony and Celebration of Human Rights Day, Dili (Timor-Leste), in presence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right Livelihood Award presentation, Stockholm, in presence

“I am in prison – this will be a long story.
But I was a man who was free, is free and will be free.”

Filmmaking to activism



The Ukrainian filmmaker Oleh Sentsov, arrested and sentenced to 20 years in prison on charges of terrorism and winner of the 2018 Sakharov Prize, joined a debate organised in September 2021 during our 16th Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy.

The film director shared with our students his experience about show trials and propaganda. Sentsov reminded us how freedom of speech in Russia is severely undermined and how reporting any minor criticism to the government is punished with imprisonment

as was his protest about the illegal annexation of Crimea. For Sentsov, freedom lies within each human being: his sense of inner freedom, together with writing plays and planning films, saved his mind during his five years imprisonment, which also included an over 100-days hunger strike. The Global Campus joined the global filmmaking community and international organisations in calling for his release through a press conference at the 76th Venice Film Festival and screening of the documentary *The Trial: The State of Russia vs Oleg Sentsov* at the 2019 Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy.

Watch our interview with Oleh Sentsov:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2r5uS571QA>

“Human rights education is much more than a lesson in school or a theme for a day; it is a process to equip people with the tools they need to live lives of security and dignity.”

Kofi Annan

The Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa

HRDA



Global Campus
Africa

People

Frans Viljoen
Ashwanee Budoo-Scholtz
Magnus Killander
Johannes Buabeng-Baidoo
Emily Laubscher
Elvis Fokala
Oluwatomiwa Ilori

Regional Network

University of Pretoria,
South Africa — *coordinator*

Université d'Abomey-Calavi,
Benin

Université Catholique
d'Afrique Centrale, Cameroon

Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

University of Ghana, Ghana

University of Nairobi, Kenya

University of Mauritius,
Mauritius

Universidade Eduardo Mondlane,
Mozambique

University of Lagos, Nigeria

Université Gaston Berger
de Saint Louis, Senegal

University of Venda, South Africa

University of Western Cape,
South Africa

Makerere University, Uganda

The absence of well-qualified human rights practitioners continues to contribute to the non-observance of key human rights in Africa. National and international bodies are under-resourced, and the ongoing conflicts in many parts of the continent and the continued non-realisation of human rights result in massive internal and external migration. Strengthening the promotion of human rights would contribute to strengthening peace and development on the overall African continent. Within this context, graduates from a programme such as the one offered by GC Africa have proven to be crucially important in helping establish basic structures to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights in line with international norms and standards.

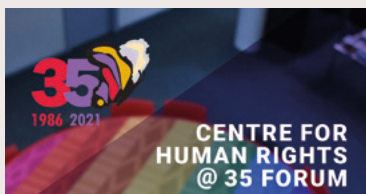
Although the government is the primary guarantor of fundamental rights and freedoms, civil society plays an important and complementary role in this respect. This is why GC Africa keeps on ensuring that its graduates end up working in non-governmental organisations, thereby contributing to strengthening the role of civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reform. By targeting specific countries when admitting students, we expect that civil society will be further empowered to play a stronger role in sensitive areas, such as the protection of human rights defenders, especially in countries where they are most at risk. In this regard, the 2021 student cohort undertook on-site study visits in and around Gauteng, the smallest but most populous province in South Africa, to investigate different human rights issues.

“Some lecturers give timely detailed feedback, and this is great. So many of them are happy to follow up on discussions and provide guidance and assistance, and this is also deeply appreciated. The proactive, regular opportunities for review are also commendable.” GC Africa student



Thanks to generous donations solicited from donors, and, in particular, the European Union and the Norwegian Government through its Embassy in Pretoria, six graduates will act as interns/legal officers at the leading African Union institutions dealing with human rights.

The Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria celebrates 35 years

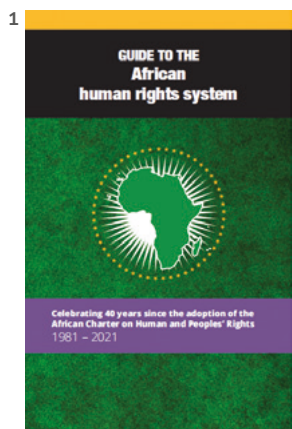


This year, the Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria, celebrated 35 years. It did so by hosting an online Forum on 9 December 2021 to reflect on its main achievements and contributions, shortcomings or missed opportunities, and to consider how the Centre needs to (re)position itself to best fit into a dramatically changing landscape relevant to human rights. Centre

and faculty staff, students, graduates, partners, donors, and other stakeholders attended the event. The GC Africa network also embarked on a rigorous internal evaluation process and measured the impact of the programme on the regional network. The results are shared with the wider Global Campus with the goal of sparking reflections and new ideas.

The Centre for Human Rights edited the *Guide to the African human rights system: Celebrating 40 years since the adoption of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights 1981 - 2021*. The Guide provides an overview of developments related to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, its supervisory body, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, as well as the

African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and its supervisory body, the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. The Guide aims to both chart the most salient historical developments and provide an accessible introduction to the African human rights system and is continuously revised.

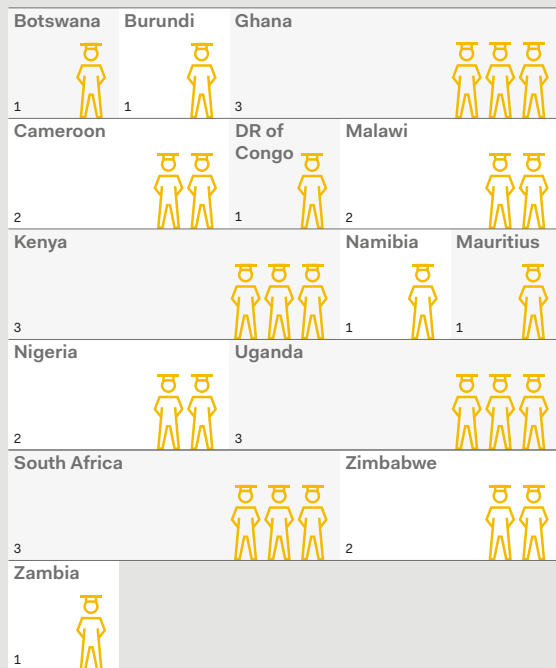


1. Guide to the African human rights system: Celebrating 40 years since the adoption of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights 1981 - 2021. Edited by the Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria, 2021. Free PDF available.

2. On 10 December 2021, International Human Rights Day, the Centre for Human Rights celebrated the achievements of its graduating students during a private event at the Future Africa Campus of the University of Pretoria. This year, the official graduation took place virtually and was complemented by the Centre's informal ceremony. During the latter, a video message from Professor Elsabe Schoeman, the Dean of the Faculty of Law, was played: 'We want you to have a decisive impact on your community as you work towards the strengthening of human rights institutions across the continent and the world. The pandemic has yet again put in stark relief the important role of human rights in a world torn apart by inequality and injustice. I know that you will make a real difference and contribute to a better world for all.'



Countries of origin of graduates

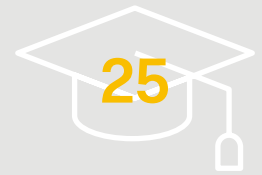


GC Africa in numbers



Member universities

48 partner organisations



2021 Graduates

77.8% satisfaction rate



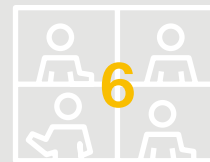
Publications

in the African Human Rights
Law Journal



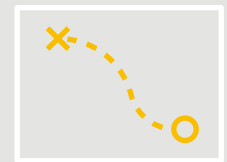
Campaigns

#StopCameroonViolations
#AfricanMigrantsMatter
#ReviveSADCTribunal



Professional courses

open to external audience



Field trip

to Gauteng, South Africa



#StopCameroonViolations campaign

On 28 May 2021, GC Africa students held a solidarity vigil at the Future Africa Campus to mourn the lost lives in Cameroon as a result of the ongoing conflict. The conflict is estimated to have resulted in over 2,000 deaths and displaced over

60,000 Cameroonians. A student delegation also met with the Cameroonian High Commissioner to South Africa, HE Mr Anu'a-Gheyle Solomon and presented a petition.

The Arab Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights

ARMA



Global Campus
Arab World

People

Karim Bitar
Jihad Nammour
Mayada Abdallah
Rania Salem
Louise Lagarde
Ahmed Lotf
Zahraa Gharib

Saint Joseph University

Regional Network

Saint Joseph University,
Lebanon — *coordinator*

University of Carthage, Tunisia

International University of Rabat,
Morocco

Birzeit University, Palestine

University of Southern Denmark,
Denmark

Danish Institute for Human Rights,
Denmark

With the participation of academics from:

Cairo University, Egypt
University of Jordan, Jordan

Despite Lebanon's multiple ongoing crises and an academic year that started only a few weeks after the dramatic explosion that destroyed large parts of Beirut and GC Arab World offices and classrooms, the programme expanded in terms of student enrollment, course offerings and activities.

“It was a year full of challenges and difficulties, but what distinguishes it is that all of us (students, staff, professors) overcame these difficulties. Although most of the courses were online, this did not prevent us from interacting and enjoying, especially for me, the course of Dr. Asim Khalil. Finally, I realised the beauty of the precious moments after returning to my homeland (Palestine). Sometimes the most difficult moments are the most beautiful... starting from my long travel journey despite the proximity of Beirut to my homeland, to the daily challenges we were living through. It made me a new person to adapt quickly, accept change and be more open to the world.” GC Arab World student

We enrolled 28 students from 14 different countries, opened 12 new courses and split the Master's programme into two parallel academic tracks: a one-year track (60 ECTS)

for students who hold an M1 in social sciences and a two-year track (120 ECTS) for students who hold a Bachelor's degree.

GC Arab World also diversified its activities and broadened its audience thanks to its partnerships with Right Livelihood, UNDP and OHCHR. We launched webinars in Arabic on children's rights highlighting student-led activities involving children. We set up a web conference on political assassinations with the Forum for Memory and Future. Additionally, we established a Human Rights Laboratory, choosing to work on the issue of war memory and the forcibly disappeared during this academic year.

The two thematic areas that were greatly expanded this year were those of transitional justice and children's rights. We started a strategic relationship with members of the new Lebanese National Commission of the Missing and the Forcibly Disappeared. GC Arab World also relaunched its internship programme, setting up new procedures and relationships with NGOs.



'Dear students, we perfectly realise that your stay in Beirut at this specific juncture was not easy. You witnessed first hand the *state collapse* phenomenon. You witnessed the deliberate inaction or complicity of the traditional Lebanese establishment. You witnessed the destructive policies that have systematically destroyed key vital sectors that our country needs most... But in this bleak global picture, I am sure that you also witnessed the many signs of hope, signs of hope that reinforce our commitment to carry on and not to give up.' Professor Karim Emile Bitar, Director of the Institute of Political Science at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut, on the occasion of the 2020/2021 graduation ceremony on 15 July 2021.

Focus on children's rights

With the support of Right Livelihood, GC Arab World offered two seminars to its Master's students: an introductory one was given by GC alumna, Véronique Lerch, and a seminar on children's access to justice by experts from Terre des Hommes. In addition, we organised two public webinars on the role of technology and internet platforms in promoting a culture of child rights and on children's needs in emergency situations

in Lebanon. Both addressed the impact of the pandemic and presented projects implemented by GC Arab World alumni, such as an online educational platform for children and the initiative *Children's Rights Emergency Packages* developed for the 26 Letters School - a Spanish youth-led NGO that supports refugee children in Beirut through courses and activities. Finally, in July 2021, we hosted a seminar to

discuss the development of the first MOOC in Arabic on children rights in collaboration with Terre des Hommes. The activity brought together representatives of universities from 7 Arab countries (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia), Université de Genève, the International Institute for the Rights of the Child (Switzerland) and the Global Campus.

In January 2021, the Arab Master Alumni Association published the proceedings from the webinar *Are Lockdowns Doing More Harm Than Good?: The Effect of COVID-19 on Unaccompanied Minors' Mental and Physical Well-being and Rights*. This webinar was held in December 2020 in partnership with the UN Major Group for Children and Youth and the Norwegian Refugee Council in Lebanon. The proceedings shed light on case studies from Lebanon and the United States in the areas of child refugees' access to education, international legal obligations and frameworks, as well as the right of unaccompanied minors to seek asylum amid COVID-19 (<https://bit.ly/2N7Pg57>).

GC Arab World students and researchers published *The 17 October 2019 protests in Lebanon: Perceptions of Lebanese and non-*

Lebanese residents of Tripoli and surroundings (<http://doi.org/20.500.11825/2035>), written on the basis of data collected during the 2019/2020 student field-trip to Tripoli. Tripoli is Lebanon's second-largest and most deprived city. Yet, it hosted the largest protests across the country, aptly referred to as the *bride of the revolution*. Using a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, the research reflects on Tripoli's residents' perceptions about the protests and provides insights into its vulnerable Syrian and Palestinian refugee inhabitants. The study also demonstrates that, surprisingly, Tripoli's citizens had nuanced perceptions about these protests, whereby divergence depends on conditions such as employment, sex, age and nationality. The study also offers some insights into Tripoli's level of mobilisation, engagement, and inclusion of women in the wave of protests.



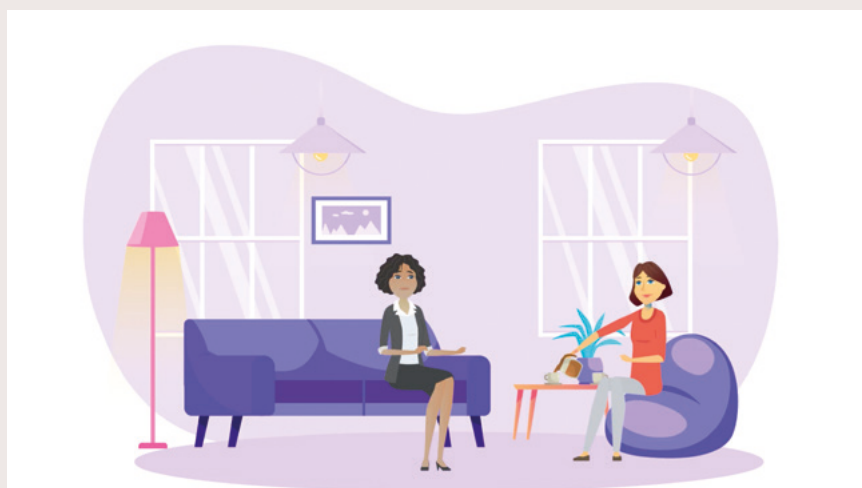
Student-led projects

Within the Human Rights Project Design course and in collaboration with NGOs, students implemented several projects: a self-defence (mind and body) training for the women of the Shatila Palestinian Camp in Beirut, an online conference on child custody in the Shiite community to shed light on alternative procedures to grant

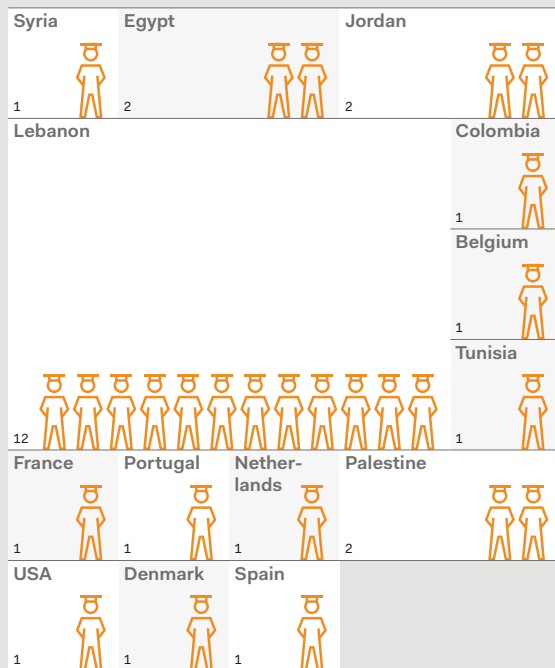
Shiite mothers longer custody of their children, an activity to support Palestinians refugees' right to work in Lebanon, a card game for children called "Rawan and Willy's emotions" to start a positive conversation on children's mental health, and an awareness-raising video about domestic violence.

Lebanese children were engaged in discussions about mental health through a card game developed by GC Arab World students.

Full video on the awareness raising campaign: shorturl.at/ctvGS



Countries of origin of graduates



“ArMA was a turning point on a personal and academic level.”

GC Arab World student

GC Arab World in numbers



Member universities

18 partner organisations



Graduates

88% satisfaction rate



Publications



Student-led projects



Seminars and programmes

open to external audiences

Web series “The Anatomy of (Political) Crimes”

GC Arab World developed a web series on the topic of political crimes in Lebanon with the Lebanese NGO Forum for Memory and Future. The series was set up in honour of Lokman Slim, a Lebanese intellectual and activist who had collaborated with the GC Arab

World's Master's programme. He was committed to supporting free speech, a culture of remembrance with regard to war memory, political crimes and human rights abuses. Lokman Slim was kidnapped and found dead in his car in southern Lebanon on 4 February 2021.



The Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in Asia-Pacific

APMA



Global Campus
Asia-Pacific

People

Michael Hayes
Bencharat Sae Chua
Mark Anthony V. Ambay II
Apisara Songpratoed

Mahidol University

Regional Network

Mahidol University,
Thailand — *coordinator*

Universitas Gadjah Mada,
Indonesia

Kathmandu School of Law,
Nepal

Ateneo de Manila University,
the Philippines

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

2021 was a challenging year at GC Asia-Pacific. Because of COVID-19, the programme had to be fundamentally restructured and delivered online, and there were many restrictions and barriers. Like in other campuses, some students faced challenges related to poor digital know-how and lack of access to hardware and connection; others faced security issues because of their online human rights activities. On the positive side, going entirely online meant that lecturers gained new skills in creating material for online classes and opened up new opportunities, such as the increased collaboration with academics of other GC regional campuses who served as guest lecturers and examiners. Moreover, it was possible to collaborate with human rights practitioners from different areas of the globe as guest lecturers, with these classes being able to pinpoint best practices that can be adapted by students in their human rights work.

“APMA gave me an international study environment with lecturers and classmates from across the region. This broadened my perspective about human rights issues in different countries. It gave me a chance to share knowledge and experiences among colleagues to find the best solutions for human rights advancement.”

GC Asia-Pacific student

December 2021 marked the 10th anniversary of the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies at Mahidol University, the hub of the GC Asia-Pacific Programme. A logo design contest was launched in this context.

To kick off the anniversary and jointly celebrate World Human Rights Month, the first-ever Town Hall Colloquium on *Assessing and Reimagining Higher Education for Democracy, Human Rights and Peace!* was organised in partnership with the SHAPE-SEA (Strengthen Human Rights and Peace Research and Education in Southeast Asia) Programme and AUN-HRE (ASEAN University Network-Human Rights Education). The event was conducted in English with simultaneous translation in Thai.

The goal was to highlight and embrace critical voices of academics, students and allies from all over the world on the impacts and vital roles of academic institutions in promoting academic freedom, strengthening democracy, protecting human rights, and building peace, particularly in the Global South.



In July, GC Asia-Pacific held the second International Virtual Conference on Emerging Research in Politics, Development, and Human Rights, in cooperation with eight international graduate studies programmes from six of Thailand's most prestigious universities (Chulalongkorn, Thammasat, Chiang Mai, Mahidol, Mae Fah Luang and Asian Institute of Technology) and the SHAPE-SEA programme. 63 papers were presented during the conference, including 17 written by APMA students.

Research activities

GC Asia-Pacific is a research-driven programme, with articles and books published each year. Among the many topics addressed by the scholars, we would like to mention online privacy protection for children in Indonesia, including refugee and asylum-seeking children; policies and approaches to human trafficking in Thailand; presumption of innocence in Southeast Asia; and the dichotomy of religion and sexualities within ASEAN member states.

In addition, 22 students (both APMA and non-APMA) attended a new research ethics workshop covering topics like standards about informed consent, data security and privacy. The goal was to train students with the necessary ethical standards and procedures to conduct research among human subjects, especially those who may be victims of human rights violations and/or abuses.

Outreach activities

Faculty, alumni and students of GC Asia-Pacific believe that outreach is paramount for the region. This is why they developed the campaign #KnowYourRights and published several opinion pieces written by students as part of their academic course requirements. The blog entries ranged from tackling anti-masking and how it violates other people's rights to discussing the democracy protests in Thailand to how the armed forces have helped exacerbate the effects of the pandemic in Myanmar. Some entries covered little known human rights issues such as the practice

of *chaupadi* in Nepal: a ritual that isolates menstruating women from the rest of the community, as they are considered impure or dirty and deemed untouchable, and therefore often banished to poorly-constructed huts. This practice carries negative consequences for the women, including improper nutrition, health problems because of an unhygienic environment (mainly reproductive health), and deprivation of education and economic opportunities. Some have also suffered sexual assault, deadly snake bites and animal attacks, diarrhoea and dehydration, and suffocation, carbon monoxide poisoning, and/or smoke inhalation.

The GC Asia-Pacific blog covers issues like *chaupadi*, a tradition in Nepal that turns menstruating women and girls into untouchables.



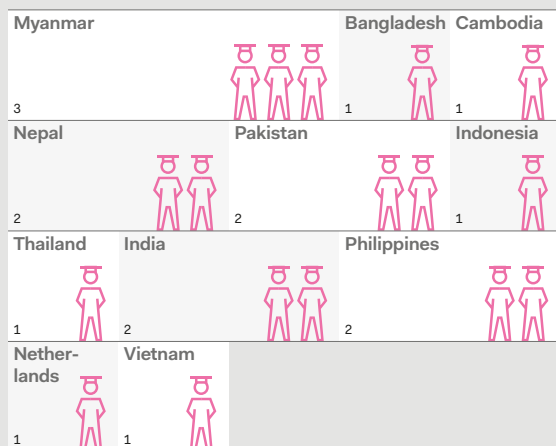
Focus on Myanmar

GC Asia-Pacific spearheaded an advocacy campaign to free Saw Lin Htet, an APMA student and Myanmar activist who was illegally detained and tortured by the Myanmar military. The programme also entered into a formal partnership with the Human Rights Education and Research Program (HRERP) in Myanmar, originally a project by the Danish Institute of Human Rights. The cooperation involves capacity building, education, research and scholarship opportunities for current and aspiring Myanmar scholars, especially after the military coup in 2021.



At the beginning of the academic year 2020/21, Saw Lin Htet authored a blog entry for GC Asia-Pacific in which he called attention to the plight of Rohingya refugees in Myanmar and Bangladesh. Both governments have banned mobile internet services in refugee camps, thus preventing the Rohingya to access health information, including on COVID-19 testing.

Countries of origin of graduates



“The program improved my knowledge and skills in human rights, especially in the Asia-Pacific context. It made me engage with students and lecturers from other countries in the region and build solidarity with their struggles. My studies immensely helped me in my current work in a women-led legal aid NGO in my country.”

GC Asia-Pacific student

GC Asia-Pacific in numbers



Member universities

37 partner organisations including 22 new ones in the AY 2019/2020



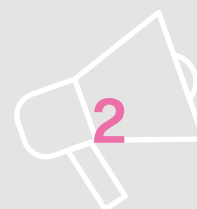
Graduates*

91% satisfaction rate



Scholarships

Winter School Economic Social Developmental Rights, Kathmandu School of Law



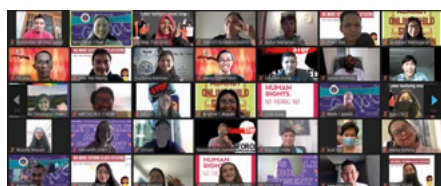
Campaigns

#FreeSawLin
#KnowYourRights



Academic articles

* from cohorts prior to 2020-21



It's not all work, and APMA students certainly know how to let their hair down. APMA students usually hang out with other students of the IHRP after the day is over, especially since the re-opening of food establishments and co-working and co-study spaces.



The Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in the Caucasus

CES



Global Campus
Caucasus

People

Artur Ghazinyan
Vladimir Martirosyan
Kristine Gevorgyan
Lilit Mirzoyan
Arusyak Aleksanyan
Lilit Karapetyan
Mariam Muradyan

Yerevan State
University

Regional Network

Yerevan State University,
Armenia — *coordinator*

Belarusian State University,
Belarus

Ivane Javakhishvili
Tbilisi State University,
Georgia

Taras Shevchenko
National University of Kyiv,
Ukraine

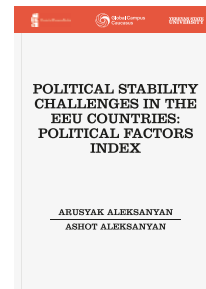
The Master's programme offered by GC Caucasus was designed to focus on and specifically target human rights defenders in the region since its inception. It only initially covered the Eastern Partnership (EaP) region but has by now expanded to the post-Soviet region following the worsened situation concerning human rights and the general backsliding of democracy.

“I do believe that this programme is a very interesting one, especially as it gives students the opportunity to choose another study curriculum where we meet other professors. This helped to enlarge my understanding of human rights-related issues and mechanisms of protection of human rights. Moreover, it gives us an opportunity to do a fact-finding report project that lets us practice what we learned and meet experts who shared their experiences with us.” GC Caucasus student

Based on the assessment of applications, many human rights defenders in the region lack formal education in the field of human rights. This is why GC Caucasus has recently tried to increase the number of human rights defenders among its students (including those with special scholarships) and especially from Russia, Belarus and the Central Asian states where human rights defenders are vulnerable to persecution.

The Master's programme benefits from the partnership with the Human Rights Defender's Office in Armenia, established a few years ago and soon to be formalised with a

memorandum of understanding. This year, the Office provided three internship positions and teaching staff for the Master's programme, including for thesis supervision and external evaluation.



Publications

The book *Political Stability Challenges in the EEU countries: Political Factors Index* (published both in English and Armenian) analyses procedures ensuring the political stability of the Eurasian Economic Union and the promotion of Eurasian integration. The political factors of stability and the new integration agenda of the EEU member states have been comparatively analysed by applying the methodology of the Stability Index of Political System with careful consideration of continually improving the context of legal obligations and harmonising interstate relations (time period 2000-2019).

The *Textbook on European Studies* (published in Armenian), developed in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, is the first of its kind and will be used for Bachelor-level students. It has chapters on EU law, human rights, governance and civil society prepared by the teaching staff of GC Caucasus (Artur Ghazinyan, Vladimir Martirosyan and Ashot Aleksanyan).

1. Kyrgyz student defending her thesis.

2. Some of the students of the 2020/21 cohort at the graduation ceremony, November 2021.



Focus on children's rights

The partnership with Right Livelihood has allowed GC Caucasus to keep expanding its activities on children's rights and to engage with youth in various programmes. Among them, the GC International Conference on climate change and child participation, hosted in Yerevan in cooperation with UNICEF Armenia, involved high school students who joined as speakers and participants. In addition, in spring 2021, GC Caucasus started to implement *Practice Exchange on Deinstitutionalisation for Children with Disabilities*. The initiative's goal was to broaden the empirical knowledge and develop strategic skills for effective management of deinstitutionalisation programmes for children with disabilities in six countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia – countries with the highest numbers of children living in institutions. The Center for European Studies hosted a regional conference on the topic with scholars, practitioners and field experts from Armenia, Georgia, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Bulgaria who exchanged on their country's policies, positive developments, practices and

problems in deinstitutionalising children with disabilities. The country briefs are available at <http://regionalmaster.net/country-briefs-on-deinstitutionalisation-for-children-with-disabilities-in-eastern-europe-and-central-asia-eecca/>.

Competence training for professionals

In June, GC Caucasus organised a series of training programmes for civil servants in cooperation with the Civil Service Office of Staff of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia. It covered topics on the theory of change in public administration, public relations and communication, and policy analysis and monitoring. In total, 119 civil servants representing different bodies of the government participated.

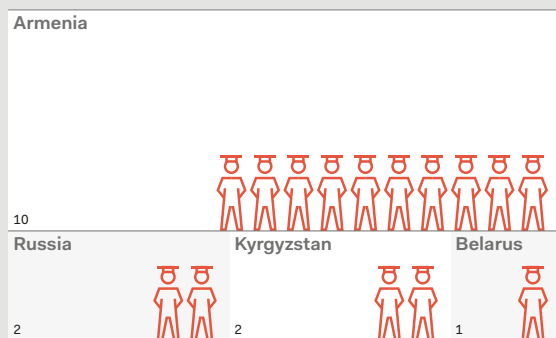
In addition, a programme for civil servants on the *Legal Framework of Climate Change Policy* was offered in cooperation with the Prosecutor's Training Centre of Ukraine. These are crucial capacity-building contributions of GC Caucasus to the region.



1. Students from Armenian schools participated in the GC International Conference on climate change and child participation, hosted by Yerevan State University on 10-11 May 2021.

2. In December 2021, GC Caucasus students visited the Fund for Armenian Relief Children's Center and the Abovyan Children's Centre, where more than 80 children (including displaced minors from Nagorno Karabakh) had fun by creating their own juggling balls and doing their first steps in juggling.

Countries of origin of graduates



GC Caucasus in numbers



“The knowledge and opportunity to learn from different academics and experts is an experience that I will never forget. I was able to talk and gain knowledge from the first Ombudsperson of Armenia and from experts from the Human Rights Defender’s Office of Armenia for my fact-finding project. Moreover, I had a chance to do my internship at the Human Rights Defender’s Office of Armenia where I developed my research and analytical skills.” GC Caucasus student

Council of Europe HELP Programme

In December, GC Caucasus started a new initiative. The 2021/22 cohort of students attended the Standards of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT), an online course organised by the Council of Europe HELP Programme (Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals). The course tutor was Sergey

Ghazinyan, adjunct lecturer at the Centre for European Studies, Yerevan State University, and GC Caucasus alumnus. Because of the success of the course, which grants a certificate, other HELP training programmes will be integrated in the Master’s programme curriculum.



The European Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation

EMA



Global Campus
Europe

People

Thérèse Murphy
Orla Ní Cheallacháin
George Ulrich
Chiara Altafin
Zoi Aliozi
Danela La Mattina
Elisabetta Zennaro
Sara Tosoni
Stefania Saccarola

Global Campus Headquarters

Regional Network

University of Graz, Austria
University of Vienna, Austria
KU Leuven, Belgium
Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium
Sofia University St Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria
University of Zagreb, Croatia
University of Cyprus, Cyprus
Masaryk University of Brno, Czech Republic
University of Southern Denmark / Danish Institute
for Human Rights, Denmark
University of Tartu, Estonia
Åbo Akademi University, Finland
University of Helsinki, Finland
Université de Strasbourg, France
Université de Montpellier, France
Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany
University of Hamburg, Germany
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
Panteion University Athens, Greece
Eotvos Lorand University Budapest, Hungary
National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland
University College Dublin, Ireland

University of Padua, Italy
Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy
University of Latvia, Latvia
University of Vilnius, Lithuania
Université du Luxembourg, Luxembourg
University of Malta, Malta
Maastricht University, the Netherlands
Utrecht University, the Netherlands
Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland
University of Coimbra, Portugal
New University of Lisbon, Portugal
University of Bucharest, Romania
Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia
University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain
University of Seville, Spain
Lund University, Sweden
Uppsala University, Sweden
University of Lucerne
(Institute of Social Ethics), Switzerland
University of Nottingham, United Kingdom
Queen's University, Belfast, United Kingdom

In September 2021, 59 students defended their Master's theses and were awarded the European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation; meanwhile, a cohort of 76 new students were welcomed to commence studies in Venice. Once again, the experience of the graduating class and the incoming class were profoundly shaped by COVID-19 restrictions. Nonetheless, we were able to maintain in-person classes and provide students with a rich and intensely interactive learning experience. While all signature elements of the European Master's programme were preserved, some new and innovative features were added that bear special mention.

“The quality of the academics, the global network that is created not only inside but also outside the classroom and the possibility of being able to meet these people outside the classroom, you create a family, even if you don't know the person at first.” GC Europe student

Focus on Climate Justice

The environmental crisis affects human rights in multiple ways, and this year we added several new elements to the EMA programme that strengthen our focus on climate change. For the first time, we organised an optional cluster on Bioethics and Biolaw for our 2021-22 student cohort, which interrogated the question of extending fundamental rights to all living beings – a discussion which was attended by our EMA office dog! In addition, Zoi Aliozi joined the GC Europe academic team in October and created a weekly seminar series on Climate Justice which concluded with a webinar with former President of Ireland and UN High Commissioner Mary Robinson. Finally, the new academic programme was strengthened by lectures on biodiversity loss, the rights of nature, and the rights of indigenous peoples in relation to climate change.



I'm pleased that the students are taking part in seminars in climate justice, as part of your European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation, because I feel we underestimate the importance of climate justice. Mary Robinson, Honorary President of the Global Campus

GC Europe students attending the lectures on *Trafficking of Nigerian women and girls across borders and preconceptions* led by Laura Pasquero, EMA alumna.



Creative communication for human rights

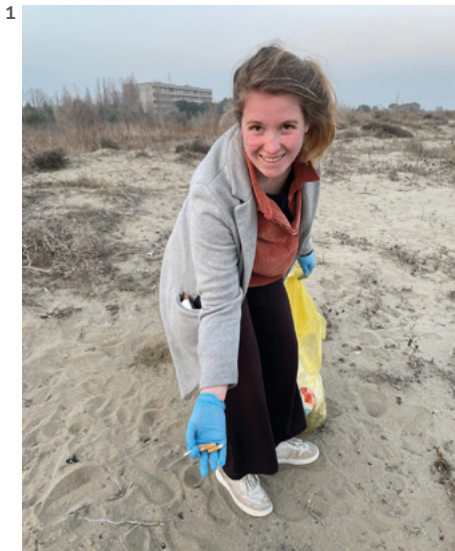
In a world that is increasingly polarised, effectively communicating human rights is more important than ever. GC Europe students had several opportunities in the past year to learn about strategies to communicate human rights. In November, EMA alumna Laura María Calderón Cuevas organised a workshop on Performing Music and Human Rights. Laura has worked with new mothers in refugee camps for many years, helping them to compose lullabies for their infants. Over the course of three days, she guided our students in composing and choreographing a song in multiple mother-tongue languages that was performed at the annual EMA student film festival on Human Rights Day in December 2021. The workshop demonstrated the importance of connection, hope and community in human rights work.

Over the past two academic years we also engaged with Picture People, a UK-based NGO that inspires individuals, groups, and communities around the world to influence decision making and action that impact their

communities. Picture People joined us in Venice to conduct an interactive workshop on Visual Storytelling and Human Rights Advocacy that has been greatly appreciated by GC Europe students.

Connecting the local and the global

Human rights challenges exist at the local and the global level. In an effort to present a local perspective on the global issues covered in the EMA programme, we began the academic year 2021-22 by inviting Venice-based NGOs to speak with our students. We Are Here Venice and Venice Calls introduced the students to pressing challenges facing the city, such as environmental degradation of the lagoon, excessive tourism and a depleting population of local residents. They underscored the importance of people coming together to take action in response to the challenges faced by local communities. Taking this message to heart, our students finished the semester in Venice with a beach clean-up close to the Global Campus Headquarters.



1. GC Europe students organised a clean-up of the beach near the Venice headquarters.

2. Students meet representatives of Venice Calls, a young local network working towards a sustainable future for Venice, both socio-economically and environmentally.

3. GC Europe students at the workshop on Performing Music and Human Rights.



Music and human rights in refugees camps

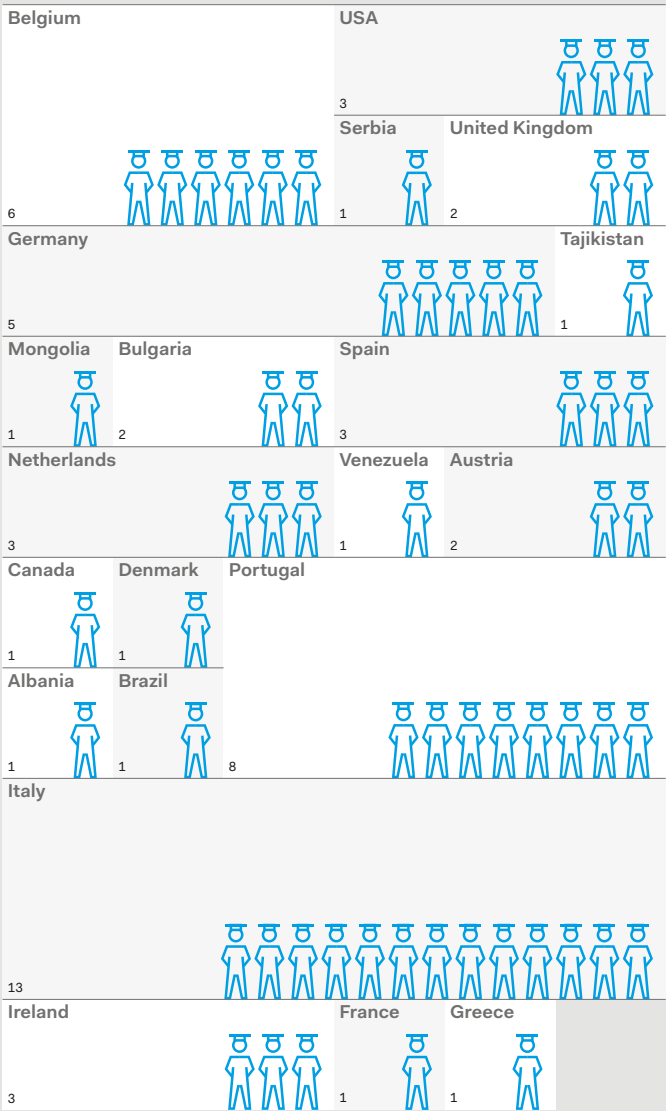


In November 2021, the students of the GC Europe Master's Programme joined a workshop on Performing Music and Human Rights organised by Laura María Calderón Cuevas, multidisciplinary teaching artist, performer, internationalist and alumna of the EMA programme. The workshop's goal was to understand and use music as a tool to explore creativity, strengthen human connections and human rights awareness. The students watched videos presenting Laura's work with refugees in Greece, and co-created their own music performance - in 8 different languages - and choreography, using body percussion and dance.

"You gave me inspiration that Human Rights is not only staying in an office but can be directly linked to arts, music and dance" / "The energy of these three days was so amazing" / "I love how we were bonding and sharing a moment, an experience, like using a common universal language", were some of the students' quotes at the end of the workshop.

Originally from Colombia, Laura María has been living in Thessaloniki, Greece, for the past five years as a Lullaby and Music Workshop Leader in Refugee Camps and Project Manager for Musicians For Human Rights.

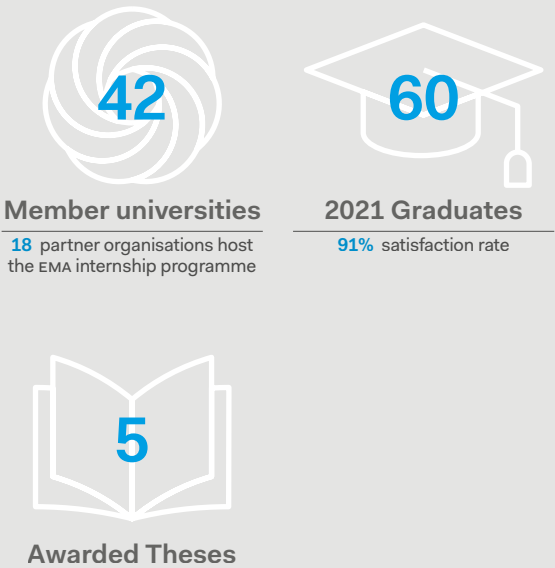
Countries of origin of graduates*



* In order to host students in Venice in person while respecting the pandemic-related restrictions, GC Europe enrolled a lower number of students than in previous years.



GC Europe in numbers

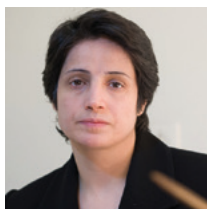


“The personal connections, the *spirit* and energy that comes with the EMA community... it is a highly motivating and inspiring environment.”

GC Europe student



An exercise organised by the GC Europe faculty during the orientation days in which they asked students to share their motivation for studying human rights.



Nasrin Sotoudeh

Human Rights Lawyer
and 2020 Right Livelihood Laureate

During my medical leave, I learned that the Global Campus of Human Rights students are holding a ceremony on International Human Rights Day to commemorate the day. I greet my young friends in Venice, and I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep joy that human values are duly appreciated and underline the importance of this effort. I would like to say to my friends who have chosen this field that sometimes we get tired in the middle of the road because we think that

our efforts have been fruitless. But that is exactly where we have to go. That's where the work is very hard. On the other hand, we always work to achieve an aspiration that may not be reached, to achieve fewer or even more outcomes than we expected. But in any case, the least possible outcome of our work is that we keep this flame burning for the future. The flame of protection of human rights and the flame of protection of life. I wish you all the best and a better future for our common endeavors.

Nasrin Sotoudeh is an Iranian lawyer advocating for the rule of law and the rights of political prisoners, opposition activists and women and children in the face of Iran's repressive regime. She is currently serving a long prison sentence for standing up against the country's draconian legal system. Despite her imprisonment and constant threats to her family, Sotoudeh remains a defiant advocate for the rule of law.

The Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation in Latin America and the Caribbean

LATMA



Global Campus
Latin America-Caribbean

People

Jorge Taiana
Héctor Mazzei
Véronica Gómez
Marina Pecar
Diego López
Jorge Migliore
Claudia Couso
Angel Zapata
Andrea Flóres
Patricio Rojas
Violeta Fernández
Rocío Puente de Diego

Universidad Nacional
de San Martín

Regional Network

Universidad Nacional de San
Martín, Argentina — *coordinator*

Universidad Mayor
de San Andrés, Bolivia

Universidade Federal
do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Universidad Nacional
de Chile, Chile

Universidad de San Francisco
de Quito, Ecuador

Universidad Rafael Landívar,
Guatemala

Facultad Latinoamericana
de Ciencias Sociales FLACSO,
Mexico

Universidad del Pacífico, Peru

Universidad de la República,
Uruguay

Universidad Nacional
de Buenos Aires,
Facultad de Ciencias Sociales,
Argentina

Universidad Nacional de General
Sarmiento, Argentina

Universidad Nacional de Lanús,
Argentina

Universidad Nacional
de Mar del Plata, Argentina

Universidad Nacional de Quilmes,
Argentina

Universidad Nacional
de Villa María, Argentina

Contributing to the promotion and respect for human rights as a tenet of democracy, the rule of law and inclusive public policies through education and capacity building is more important than ever in Latin America and the Caribbean. COVID-19 and its effect on access to health and education have made the impact of inequality regarding fundamental social, economic and cultural rights even more clear and urgent. This is why GC Latin America and its Master's in Human Rights and Democratisation in Latin America and the Caribbean has an important role to play in terms of education, capacity building and strengthening strategic alliances with a wide regional network of governments, national human rights institutions, inter-governmental organisations and civil society.

Due to the pandemic, the Master's programme was offered in an online format like the previous edition. Despite the challenges, the call for applications and selection process were successful, thesis tutorials were carried out appropriately, and the indicators for the submission of theses remained within historical parameters. Moreover, by offering the programme via online platforms, we

reached target populations that normally cannot devote a full year to studying abroad, including single parents. However, there is still ongoing concern regarding the impact of the pandemic on the gender gap, given that many women in lockdown in the region were caring for families while studying.

Outreach activities

Among the most successful public events organised by the programme, the online conference *The protection of the environment in Latin America: a high-risk activity*, in collaboration with the European Parliament, attracted almost 500 viewers. Among the speakers were Isabel Santos, Member of the European Parliament; Claudelice Silva dos Santos, Brazilian environmental activist and finalist of the 2019 Sakharov Prize; and Bertha Zúñiga, Honduran social activist, daughter of the murdered leader Berta Cáceres, and finalist of the 2020 Sakharov Prize (Zúñiga assumed the role of coordinator of the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras).

“I enrolled in the programme because it had excellent references, including allowing you to complete your thesis—something that many Master’s programme in Argentina do not achieve. I feel grateful and privileged to have participated in LATMA. It has been a unique opportunity where first-rate learning is offered in a process guided and accompanied by a warm and generous team.”

GC Latin America & Caribbean student

Speakers at the online conference *La defensa del medio ambiente en América Latina: una actividad riesgosa* (The protection of the environment in Latin America: a high-risk activity) organised in collaboration with the European Parliament.



Cinema and human rights

In July 2021, GC Latin America and Caribbean offered the first edition of the online course “Cinema and human rights: from the idea to the audio-visual project”. This very successful interdisciplinary initiative contributes to the creation and development of audio-visual narratives that promote the recognition of new rights and the non-repetition of past human rights violations. We received 129 applications and selected 22 participants from 10 countries in the region. Both recognised professionals from the audio-visual field and human rights experts joined the course that was offered free of charge and with limited quotas in order to respect the workshop dynamics/increase the interaction between participants.



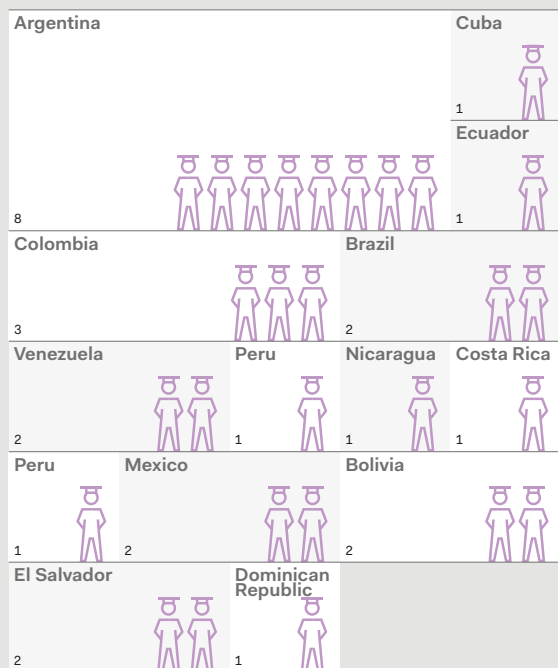
Renewed impetus of the regional alumni

EMDHAL, the association of GC Latin America alumni, witnessed a year of expansion thanks to the increased support of the programme and the initiative of a new steering committee of alumni. Among the 2021 activities, alumni organised several public webinars (with alumni speakers) with a regional focus on topics like children and new technologies, migration in times of COVID-19, protection of migrant children, environment and human rights, and transgender children.



“The direction of investigation and research by supervisors is often an effort made like an extra job in Argentina. LATMA tutorials are a huge privilege, which allows directors to dedicate another amount and quality of time. What I’ve learned during the process of writing [my thesis] with the direction of my tutor and the LATMA team is priceless. In a very particular year due to the challenges that the pandemic brought us, the tutors accompanied us and motivated us virtually as if we saw each other every day. For me, this experience was a support during really hard times.” GC Latin America & Caribbean student

Countries of origin of graduates



GC Latin America-Caribbean in numbers



Trans-gressing politics: the right to participations of transgender citizens and their fight for equality, one of the academic commentaries published on DIAGONALCIEP. DIAGONALCIEP, launched in 2018, is an online platform where academia and current affairs meet to promote analysis on human rights and democracy in Latin America and other regions of the world. The platform is coordinated by the International Centre for Political Studies (Centro Internacional de Estudios Políticos - CIEP) at the University of San Martín and hosts contributions by students and GC Latin America-Caribbean alumni. DIAGONALCIEP also hosted a commentary on the rights of Afro-Argentines - Afro-descendant being one of the cross-cutting issues in the Master's programme together with indigenous peoples and gender.



European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe

ERMA



Global Campus
South East Europe

People

Asim Mujkić
Marco Borraccetti
Mariana Hadzijusufović
Alina Trkulja
Aida Salihović-Gušić
Marija Ivanović
Nikolina Milić
Nina Dragičević
Mileva Piralčić

University of Sarajevo,
University of Bologna

Regional Network

University of Sarajevo,
Bosnia and Herzegovina
— *coordinator*

University of Bologna,
Italy — *coordinator*

University of Graz, Austria

New Bulgarian University,
Bulgaria

University of Zagreb, Croatia

Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany

University of Peloponnese, Greece

University of Prishtina, Kosovo

University Ss. Cyril and
Methodius, North Macedonia

University of Belgrade, Serbia

University of Banja Luka, Bosnia
and Herzegovina

After the Balkan conflict, much progress was made in prosecuting war criminals, searching for missing persons, and developing institutional reforms to promote the rule of law. However, the advancement in democracy and protection of human rights has stalled in recent years. Mounting instances of hate speech, glorification of war crimes, and the relativisation of the decisions of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and national tribunals are often top news stories. This is why the Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe (ERMA) continues to be a crucial investment to support the future governing and intellectual elites and to strengthen the civil society in the region. The programme's 20th edition was conducted fully online, as were some of its internships.

Focus on children's rights

On 17 April 2021, GC South East Europe organised the online conference 'Children in migration: perspectives from South East Europe', featuring four panels on a regional overview; identification and access to asylum; alternative care and guardianship; and integration and education. The conference, organised in collaboration with Right Livelihood, allowed 16 participants the opportunity to present the preliminary findings of research conducted in five countries of South East Europe. An extremely successful event with over 100 participants, the conference contributed to a mutual understanding of the highest children's rights standards enshrined in international and regional mechanisms. In addition, the event created a space for knowledge exchange between relevant stakeholders, experts and practitioners working directly with children in migration in different countries of South East Europe.

“As a school teacher, I've always felt that I could give much more to my students than what was included in the already outdated curriculum. Seeing how my students' engagement increases by introducing topics of a socio-political nature was just an additional motivation for me to enroll in this programme. Because ERMA opened up so many new avenues for investigation, my thesis focused on youth activism for climate justice as well as environmentalism and environmental rights. Amazing, right?” GC South East Europe student

The joy of GC South East Europe students at the graduation ceremony in Sarajevo in October 2021. 2021 marks the 20th anniversary of the ERMA programme.



Global Classroom 2021

The ERMA alumnus Miloš Burzan (Academic Tutor at the University Donja Gorica) was involved as one of the seven regional coordinators of the 2021 Global Classroom, one of the flagship international activities of the Global Campus that bring together research teams of students on a specific question. This year, the Global Classroom was co-organised by the GC South East Europe programme on the topic of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on economic and social rights worldwide; Rachel Kurian, ERMA lecturer, was appointed as global research coordinator. Attention was given to the inequity in the global distribution of vaccinations and the violations of the rights of different vulnerable groups, such as children, elderly, Roma, minority groups, Dalits, women indigenous groups, and LGBTI. Reflections also took place on the structural inequalities and discrimination in the pattern of technological and economic growth in the pre-COVID-19 period. Links to the environmental crises and how these favoured the increasing profits for a small group at the expense of the planet and majority of people were discussed.



The conference underlined the need for good information sharing as well as local and relevant solutions. It also highlighted the need to consistently link economic and social rights to other rights, most notably political and cultural rights. As in 2020, the final presentation event was held online, but we are looking forward to the 2022 Global Classroom that will be hosted, hopefully in presence, by the University of Pretoria.



Rachel Kurian (Erasmus University Rotterdam) was the research coordinator of the 2021 Global Classroom. Her research focuses on economic globalisation, gender, human and labour rights, social exclusion and poverty.

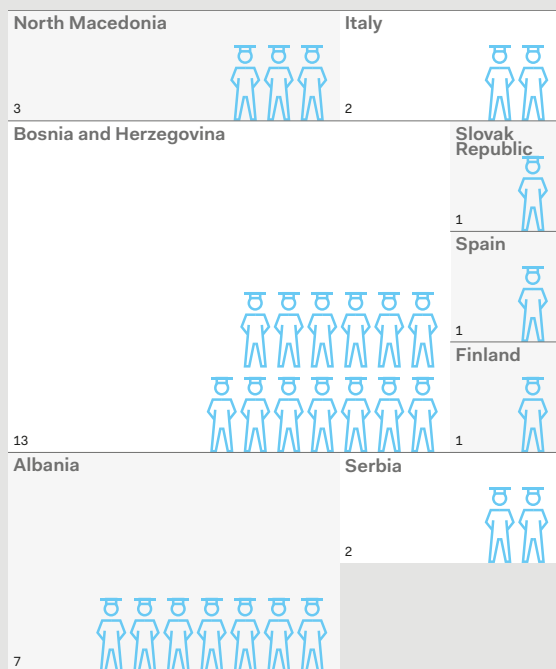
The crucial support of the regional alumni association (EAN)

The GC South East Europe has cultivated strong ties with the ERMA Alumni Network (EAN), which links over 500 graduates of the programme to its alma mater and vice versa. Alumnae and alumni are involved as lecturers to capitalise on their expertise and knowledge: currently 12 of them with various backgrounds (academic, INGO and NGO) have joined the teaching team. In addition, new pilot initiatives designed and coordinated by EAN have been embedded in the curriculum, such as the Human Rights in Practice Programme which offers workshops on project

writing and advocacy. As the workshops received excellent feedback from the students, two additional modules are foreseen for the academic year 2021/22: project management and human rights activism. EAN and GC South East Europe jointly organised a debate on *Environmental Struggles in South East Europe: Actors, Potentialities and Challenges*, which was conducted online on 24 June 2021. Within the political space of South East Europe, environmental issues are emerging as an important mobilising point of contentious politics across different social actors and movements.

In many cases, environmental struggles arise in opposition to the big investment projects. At the same time, they also emerge against government inactions and/or mismanagement. The civic and political movements aim to increase citizen participation in decision-making, counteract corruption and opacity of public tenders and, overall, fight for the promise of a greener and better future. The online discussion shed light on the motivation and strategies behind environmental struggles and their future horizons.

Countries of origin of graduates



GC South East Europe in numbers



Member universities

pool of **100+** partner organisations

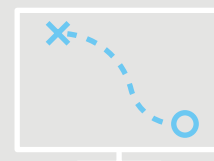


2021 Graduates

94% satisfaction rate



Awarded Theses



Virtual field trip to Mostar

and the Italian Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina

“I could not have imagined how valuable and precious the experience would turn out to be for me. I very much appreciated the interdisciplinarity of the programme that enabled me to look at concepts, events, and phenomena from different angles and perspectives, engaging in complex thought processes to grasp the essence of humankind. To me, the fast pace of the progress I was making was unfathomable because I could not believe that in a one-year span, a person could grow so much.”

GC South East Europe student

In November 2021, the appreciated annual visit to Mostar finally returned to an in presence trip, but only for the new 2021/22 student cohort. They were welcomed by Vernes Voloder, project coordinator of the Nansen Dialogue Centre (NDC) Mostar, who discussed the current political situation in Mostar and the NDC model for integrated education in divided communities. Students also visited K19 - OKC Abrašević, an open network of non-governmental organisations, informal groups and individuals based in Mostar that offers a space and support to youth in realising ideas and encourages projects that promote civic society, arts and social cohesion.



Updates from Timor-Leste



Adriano Remiddi
Project Manager

Since 2019, the Global Campus has been assisting the National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL) in developing capacities to set up human rights education and research activities by establishing a Human Rights Centre (HRC) with the support of the EU. The Centre, which aims to play an important role in the promotion and protection of human rights, democracy and sustainable development in the country, has been working to mainstream human rights education throughout all university departments through curriculum development, training and outreach.

In 2021, the project reached a remarkable milestone with implementing a new general education course, *Introduction to Human Rights*, enrolling over 950 students in 16 selected departments in its pilot edition. For the UNTL, this is an essential step on the path to ensuring basic human rights education for all its students.

Specialised human rights courses also kicked off in 2021 with the HRC's first project aimed at creating a new curricular subject in children's rights in selected faculties, thanks to the support of Right Livelihood. With important progress made last year, the UNTL is moving forward with its accession to the Global Campus as part of the GC Asia-Pacific regional hub expected by the end of the next academic year.

The UNTL, jointly with the Global Campus and the EU Delegation in Dili, celebrated Human Rights Day on 10 December 2021 with the diploma ceremony of the *Human Rights Study & Training Programmes*. Thanks to these programmes, six local emerging human rights defenders, fifteen UNTL professors and six UNTL alumni were trained in Dili, Bangkok, Manila and Gadjah Mada to become the team of lecturers, researchers and staff of the new Centre. Former Timor-Leste President and Peace Nobel Laureate José Ramos-Horta, the patron of the Centre since its inauguration, joined the ceremony.

1



2



1. The participants of the *Human Rights Study & Training Programmes* receive their diplomas in a high level ceremony co-organised with the EU Delegation. Six have successfully finished the GC Asia-Pacific Regional Master coordinated by Mahidol University, becoming the first Timorese alumni of the Global Campus.

2. University students at the Human Rights Centre during an event marking the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.



José Ramos-Horta

Former President of Timor-Leste
and Peace Nobel Laureate

The Human Rights Centre [at UNTL] is a great initiative, that will first reach out to our youth so that they will understand what are the fundamental human rights that come from our own Constitution and from the treaties we have ratified (...). This is like an insurance for the rule of law, democracy and freedom.



Andrew Jacobs

Ambassador of the EU
to Timor-Leste

We are very proud to support this Centre, and to support the work that it's doing, bringing the study of human rights into different courses and different parts of the University, and helping young people understand the importance of promoting and protecting human rights in Timor-Leste and across the world.

Digital Learning Initiative

One of the core achievements in 2021 was the launch of the Digital Learning Initiative *An Introduction to Human Rights in Southeast Asia*, designed for UNTL and made freely accessible to all Timorese. This initiative, created in English and local Tetum languages, closes a gap in the local human rights education. Based on ten modules, including subjects related to

the most pressing human rights issues in Timor-Leste, the digital programme includes video lessons taught by experts from the Global Campus, the ASEAN University Network, and other leading experts. The programme also involves an electronic version of the textbook that is examined together with the project trainees and with the involvement of Timorese civil

society organisations, a bilingual glossary of the most useful human rights terms, simplified slides for in-class activities, and a teaching plan for the course. These materials are also now being adopted by the local Human Rights Defenders Network (RDDU) for their vocational training of youth activists.

Alumni and students as defenders

Ram Kumar Bhandari



Ram Bhandari from Nepal has been an activist since his student days when he started organising among people like himself — the families of the disappeared — to demand and receive answers from the oppressive governments. His younger years led to creating a national network of families of the disappeared in 2009. He now has well over a decade's experience working with marginalised communities in Nepal and South Asia — particularly among the families of the disappeared, victims of conflict, ex-combatant youth, ethnic minorities and rural women groups — facilitating participatory action research; developing campaign models and advocacy strategies that advance truth-telling, justice, and community memorialisation; and creating grassroots movements and social transformation. Over the following decade, he met fellow activists from other countries with whom he founded the International Network of Victims and Survivors of Serious Human Rights Abuses (INOVAS), formally established in 2020.

Ram Bhandari was the recipient of the 2021 EMA Alumni Award, a prize offered annually by the alumni association of the GC Europe Master's Programme to one of their alumnae and alumni.

Miatta Maria Samba



In March 2021, Miatta Maria Samba, an alumna of the GC Africa Master's Programme, took office as judge of the International Criminal Court (ICC). She is a judge of the Court of Appeal of Sierra Leone and has over twenty years of international and domestic experience as a criminal law practitioner and judge. Justice Samba was the Associate Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, which was established by the agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations after the civil war. Samba has experience in criminal law, humanitarian law, international human rights law and rules of procedure and evidence. She has held various positions, including Senior Prosecutor at the Anti-Corruption Commission of Sierra Leone and High Court Judge. She is also a criminal law lecturer at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone.

Justice Samba's career trajectory is an excellent example of someone putting their education to its best use for the service of society.

Saw Lin Htet



Saw Lin Htet, an activist from Myanmar and student of the GC Asia-Pacific Master's Programme, was arrested by the military junta in March 2021 after joining an anti-coup protest while conducting field research. A petition was filed with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar. At the same time, Saw Lin Htet's fellow students at Mahidol University launched a Facebook campaign to call attention to his arbitrary arrest and disappearance. He is one of hundreds of students who have been arrested or even killed under the current regime in Myanmar. In December 2021, Saw Lin Htet was sentenced by a court to 2 years in prison with hard labour.

Mirza Dinnayi



A Yazidi activist, Mirza Dinnayi has dedicated his whole life to saving the victims of the Iraq war by evacuating women and children from territories controlled by ISIS and providing them with rehabilitation and support. Having co-founded Luftbrücke Irak (Air Bridge Iraq), he personally transports people to safety and delivers food and water to isolated areas, even after surviving a helicopter crash himself.

Mirza Dinnayi is the author of a book chapter on Yazidis and ISIS, which draws on the dissertation he wrote as a student of the GC Europe Master's Programme (<https://www.openstarts.units.it/handle/10077/30791>). He is the recipient of the 2019 Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity. In 2021, he was one of the panellists of the #AuroraDialogues "Health Security: Humanitarian Impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic" that took place in Venice within the Aurora Prize Ceremony.

The Global Campus Alumni network



Giacomo Ottonello and Valentina Abita
Global Activities coordination

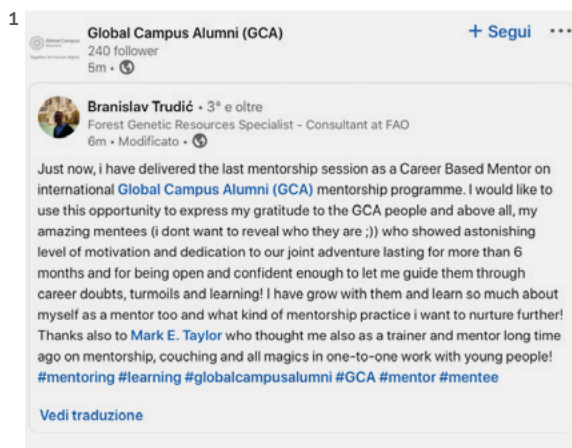
One of the GC Alumni Association's very successful activities of 2021 was the Mentoring Programme, implemented with special thanks to the EMAlumni Association with the involvement of graduates from all Global Campus regions. The programme connects recent alumni with experienced ones and provides support, advice and exchanges of ideas. This year, 43 pairs of mentor-mentee were created. They held initial talks and created agreed-upon plans, goals and expectations. Most mentees are interested in exploring a career in international institutions, but they are ready to start their professional path in an NGO where it is easier to enter as a young graduate. In 2022, the GCA will also offer a special Career Coaching Programme to support alumni in the job application process.

Alumni contribute to the Human Rights Preparedness blog

In September 2021, the editors of the Global Campus blog Human Rights Preparedness ran a competition to select alumni from each GC regional programme to become regional correspondents. With training from Rosie Cowan, a former journalist who is a PhD student at Queen's University Belfast, these alumni have been writing sharp and informative contributions, displaying the depth and range of skills and interests that characterise our alumni network.

Since its launch in June 2020, the blog has published more than 100 articles. Every article contributes to the blog's aim, which is to promote a human rights-based approach to pandemics and other emergencies.

<https://gchumanrights.org/preparedness.html>



1. Branislav Trudić is a FAO consultant who was selected for the GCA Mentorship Programme.

2. Contribution by a GC Arab World alumna for Human Rights Preparedness.

Webinars with Right Livelihood Laureates

The GCA collaborated with Right Livelihood to organise a series of webinars with Right Livelihood Laureates, alumni and experts. The webinars investigated cross-cutting issues related to children's rights like disability, climate change and the rights of indigenous children. We were fortunate to have Lotte Cunningham Wren, a lawyer from the Miskito indigenous group in Nicaragua and 2020 Right Livelihood Laureate, join the webinar 'Ensuring the rights of indigenous children and preserving their culture and special relationship with nature, regional and international examples'.

The webinars were recorded and are available at <https://gchumanrights.org/education/career-development/gca-webinars.html>



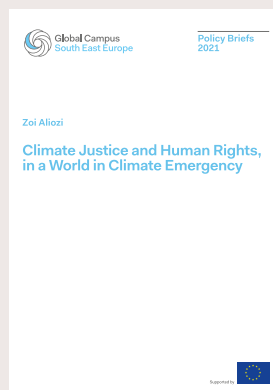
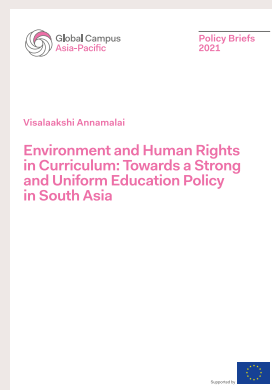
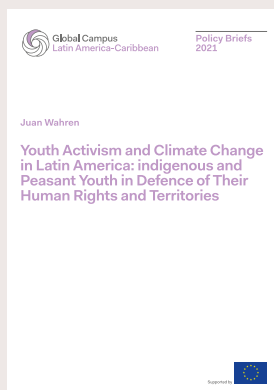
Global Campus Policy Observatory 2021

The 4th edition of the Global Campus Policy Observatory addressed the topic "Environment and Human Rights: Realising the Rights of Future Generations". Coordinated by Ravi Prakash, the research project engaged with analysts from all seven Global Campus regions, most of them alumni.

A cross-cutting focus was used, taking into account the perspective of youth, including youth mobilisation. The policy briefs offer a regional focus and address topics such as: environment and human rights in the curriculum, children's legal protection against climate change, Europe's aspirational climate policies, and indigenous youth activism.

In order to broaden the scope of advocacy and outreach, the analysts' team also organised a panel during the Global Campus International Conference on Climate Change and Children: Impact, Rights and Participation.

The 2021 Policy Briefs are available at <https://repository.gchumanrights.org/handle/20.500.11825/579>



Focus on children's rights



Reina-Marie Loader
Children's Rights
Manager

Despite the pandemic, this year has seen the cooperation between Right Livelihood and the Global Campus grow exponentially due to an open call for projects initiated in 2020: members and partners across our network were invited to submit single and/or multi-year projects focused on the promotion of the rights of the child. In the end, the cooperation approved 28 children's rights projects ranging from MOOCs, events and summer schools to publications along with a variety of activities related to the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty. A detailed list of the projects, as well as their descriptions, can be found in the children's rights section of the GC website. On these pages, we aim to offer a taste of our many achievements.

Child participation is a core component of the Global Campus - Right Livelihood cooperation. A project that exemplifies this is the children's rights moot court competition.



Led by our member university in Pretoria, the programme has been expanded to Nepal, Ghana and Ethiopia. It helps young learners to understand and analyse the necessary foundations of human rights principles and objectives. Despite the difficulties presented by COVID-19, we successfully reached

learners in all three countries. The moot court competition is a wonderful example of a project that combines the Global Campus' core business of human rights education with an approach focused on the inclusion of children.

Similarly, we have also committed ourselves to create environments (both physical and online) where young people can go to learn and connect. Bringing like-minded young people together from all walks of life can be incredibly invigorating since they offer each other advice on how to become changemakers – not only on the streets but also in their local communities, schools, medical facilities and parliaments. To this end, and together with our colleagues from the Kathmandu School of Law in Nepal, we embarked on an ambitious mission to design the first child-led Global Campus International Conference. During the last months of 2021, we organised a series of in-presence and online consultations with children from Nepal, India, South Africa, Armenia, Lebanon, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador and Italy in order to identify which issues are relevant to children. Two children per country were selected by their peers to form part of what we have preliminarily called the *GC Children's Leadership Team*. From the start, it was quite clear that there are a number of common issues: child abuse, mental health, education and child labour. The conference is held in February 2022, and we are very excited and very grateful to the young people who are so skillfully owning the process!



A class of students from a middle school in Bolzano, Italy, who are involved in the 2022 child-led conference. After selecting what they felt were the most pressing rights, the students created a small ripple effect by designing and sharing a questionnaire with peers from their school. Overall, the right to choose one's own life path and the right to dress (appear) as one wishes without being harassed or judged were the chosen themes.





Yetnebersh Nigussie

UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa,
2017 Right Livelihood Laureate

It's a big day for you, but a big day for those of us who fight for human rights all over the world. And, in particular, my fellow laureates in the Right Livelihood family, that we get an additional army of human rights who can stand with us not only with confidence, but also with competence, to protect the most needed value of life: human rights. And it's not about adding value for somebody else. It's just as minimum as allowing someone born with rights to die with the rights that he or she has come with. It's not about importing it. It's about protecting it. It's about promoting it. The best way to get human rights promoted and protected is by educating. So I would like to congratulate your professors who have been producing a fantastic and very highly needed army of human rights that will definitely change our world. The more we educate people, the more we empower them, then the more we disarm those who are fabricating weapons to fight, kill each other, harm and threaten the climate, as well as the well-being of humanity. Allow me to share with you that the

fellow laureates of Right Livelihood, which I am representing today in a very successful partnership with the Global Campus of Human Rights, are not human rights graduates. We are people of desire of all human rights for all the people in all the times and all the places. What is important is that the universality and indivisibility applies to our daily life, when human rights is threatened somewhere it becomes a threat everywhere. COVID-19 has taught us that we are ever interconnected, not to be detached. So I would like to call on all of you today that we remove the barriers for those who are unable to exercise the rights that they were born with. You're starting a rough journey with your armed knowledge and skills that are needed everywhere to combat the stereotypes, prejudices and myths about human rights. I would like to call upon you: use your education to challenge norms and change the discourse of human rights being a luxury. Let's build forward together and make human rights not a privilege but a right for all.

Yetnebersh Nigussie is an Ethiopian lawyer working for human rights based on her own experience of being discriminated against for her nationality, being young, a woman – and blind. She is fearlessly pushing for women's and girls' rights, inclusive education and the creation of a vibrant civil society. In 2021, Yetnebersh joined various Global Campus activities and gave a very inspiring keynote speech at the graduation ceremony of the GC Europe Master's Programme in September.



Advancing Children's Rights Strategic Litigation

Advancing Children's Rights Strategic Litigation (ACRiSL) is the title of another very ambitious project that places children at the centre of its activities. Led by Aoife Nolan at the University of Nottingham, the project has focused directly on the practice and theory of child rights strategic litigation, with eight global partners drawn from advocacy and academia, including the Centre for Child Law at the University of Pretoria; the Human Rights Institute at the University of Deusto; and the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR) in Berlin.

ACRiSL has made a concerted effort to include children not only in an advisory capacity but also as producers of project content. One project element, managed by IMPACT (a UK-based NGO), entails workshops with young people in order to develop material that can be used as part of children's rights strategic litigation efforts.

In terms of developing strategic dialogue and collaboration between universities and litigators with the aim of changing public policies that impact negatively on child rights, the project has crucially led to the establishment of a network of academics, legal professionals, NGOs, INGOs, NHRIs and others interested in children's rights strategic litigation work from a wide range of perspectives. Through its events, this network serves as a community of practice in children's rights strategic litigation, enabling information

sharing about past, current and planned litigation, as well as facilitating knowledge exchange between different stakeholders.

Additionally, two successful international workshops focused on children's rights strategic litigation were delivered. The first workshop honed in on migration-related detention in Europe and Asia. Organised in the context of the follow-up of the UN Global Study of Children Deprived of Liberty at the Global Campus, the workshop included litigators and other legal practitioners, ACRiSL project members, and members of UN and Council of Europe treaty monitoring bodies. The discussions centred on highlighting systemic issues related to children's rights strategic litigation as well as on identifying which forms of children's rights strategic litigation is most appropriate in order to tackle migration-related detention in the regions concerned.

The second workshop, co-organised by the University of Deusto and ECCHR, brought together practitioners and academics to reflect on an extremely relevant issue related to children's rights strategic litigation: the implementation of and follow-up strategies for decisions adopted by judicial and quasi-judicial bodies on children's rights. The workshop focused particularly on the experience of litigation before the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on cases involving migrant children in Spain.

More information on ACRiSL
<https://www.acrsl.org>

Looking ahead

The UN Global Study component of the ACRiSL project is led by Chiara Altafin, Global Campus Research Manager. It aims primarily at providing children's rights strategic litigation practitioners with support, whether financial or otherwise (i.e., in the form of possible *amicus curiae* / third party

interventions or technical capacity on argumentation), for cases in Europe and Asia to enforce the implementation of the Global Study recommendations on migration-related detention of children by means of strategic litigation before domestic, regional and international courts and monitoring bodies.

Objectives of the project Advancing Children's Rights Strategic Litigation, ACRiSL



Venice connections



Elisa Aquino
Fundraising, PR &
Communication
Manager

According to a manuscript dating from 1514, Venice was founded in 421. While this is probably a myth created by the upper echelons of *La Serenissima*, 2021 marked the official 1600th anniversary of the City of the Lagoon. An exciting programme of exhibitions, tours, conferences and seminars was organised to celebrate the event. The Global Campus joined in, especially to remind Venice, whose history of (relative) tolerance and freedom of thought is globally recognised, that human rights play a crucial role in shaping the present and the future of cities. We joined Venice International University in an online lecture Human Rights Cities, and we organised various GC Conversations. The fourth Conversation, in particular, covered the issue of the possible futures of Venice and the role of culture, the arts, academia and NGOs in partnering with institutions to deal with the current health, humanitarian, and human rights crises. We engaged with local NGOs that are working to mitigate the well-known environmental, tourism and society-related threats that Venice has been experiencing for a long time.

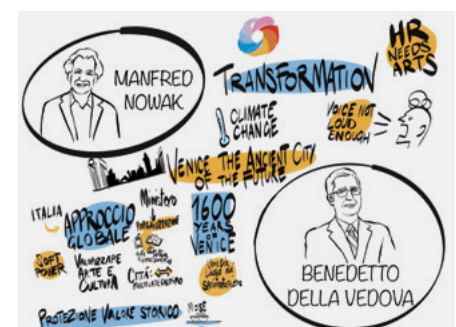
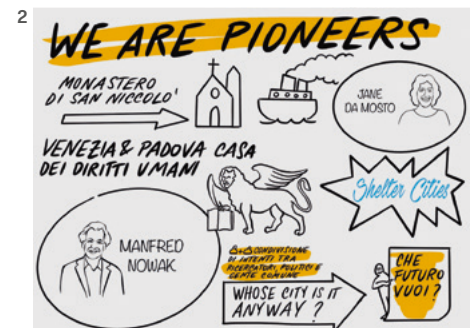
We are grateful to the Municipality of Venice, the Veneto Region, Ca' Foscari University, IUAV (Architecture School of Venice), Venice International University, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Fondazione M9, Fondazione di Venezia, Fondazione Generali - Human Safety Net, Fondazione Berengo, Biennale di Venezia, Scuola Grande di San Rocco, We Are Here Venice, and Venice Calls, just to name a few. We are proud to be located in Venice and partner with Venetian governmental institutions, education and cultural organisations, and NGOs to keep on offering our values, expertise, and passion for human rights.

And, beyond Venice, a special thank you to the Italian government, in particular the Italian Senate that recently hosted us.



1. In 2021, the city of Venice celebrated the 1600th anniversary of its founding.

2. Fourth online Global Campus Conversation, 14 July 2021. Illustrations by artists Nicola Ferrarese and Paolo Gallina.





Michele Bugliesi

President of Fondazione di Venezia

Fondazione di Venezia is a banking foundation that promotes the civil society and human capital of Venice, including in its historical, cultural and economic dimensions.

Adherence to the fundamental principles of human rights and the commitment to promote knowledge and respect are founding pillars of the mission of all entities operating in the institutional, scientific and cultural fields. It is with this awareness that the Fondazione di Venezia and M9 - Museo del '900 have enthusiastically joined the new partnership with the Global Campus of Human Rights. This partnership comes with the perspective of a collaboration that continues the Foundation's 35-year activity on research and training, and in the future direction that

the Foundation undertakes with the M9 Museum in its cultural proposal and reflections on our recent past and the challenges of both the present and the near future. The objectives of the 2030 Agenda represent the broader framework within which the relationship we have launched will see us work side by side in the development of initiatives in which people, the environment and the social and civil context are always at the centre in which we live. Sharing an agenda focused on respect for human rights with the Global Campus will be a great opportunity for growth

for the Fondazione di Venezia and the M9 Museum — allowing us to broaden our gaze; learn about new realities and communities; and build the foundations to expand the network of relationships with many other subjects with whom we share objectives and a mission in training, culture, and the promotion of individual and collective well-being. For the Foundation and the M9 Museum, this new collaboration means consolidating its presence at the service of a community and its role as an agent of cohesion and social inclusion.



Jane Da Mosto

Co-founder of We Are Here Venice

We Are Here Venice is an NGO that addresses Venice's challenges as a living city and advocates evidence-based approaches to policy making.

Human rights are integral to wellbeing, as are the UN's SDGs. Social, economic and environmental rights cannot be disentangled, as we all are experiencing directly during the COVID-19 pandemic, throughout the world. The ambition to build a sustainable society together (from the micro to the macro scale), as described by both the UN and the

Veneto Region, depends on everyone making binding commitments and ensuring that no one is left behind due to the lack of civil awareness where they live. [...] We are delighted to be associated with the Global Campus and look forward to getting to know you better and exploring some of the specific issues that We Are Here

Venice is engaging with. Together, we would like to extend the human rights perspective to non-human life within the context of the existential symbiosis on which the continued existence of Venice and the lagoon system depends.

The Global Campus in numbers

Period of reference: August 2020 — July 2021



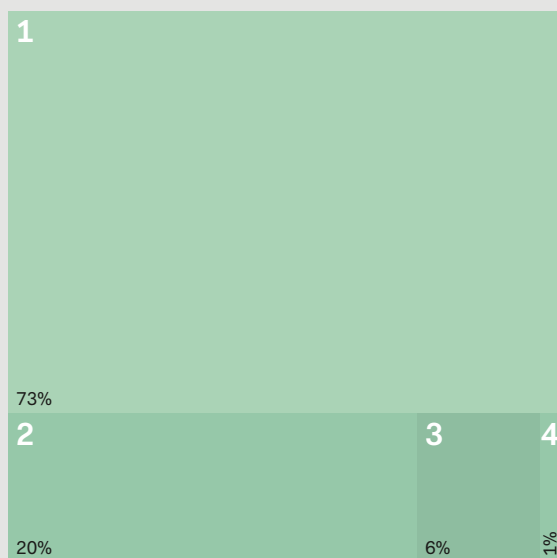
Finances



Luca Fantinel
Finance Manager

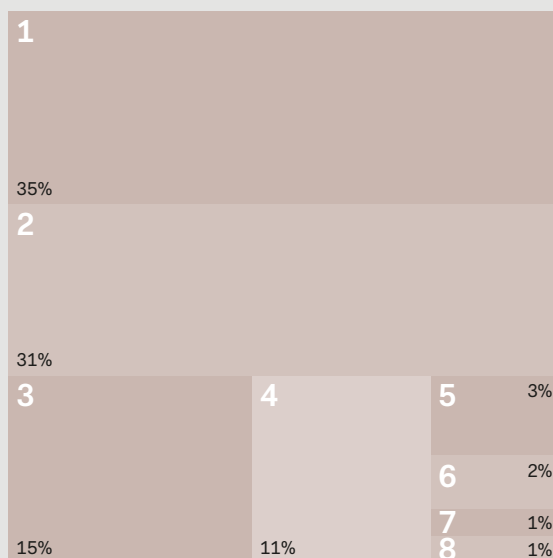
Period of reference: August 2020 — July 2021

Income € 6,007,160



1	EU grant	€ 4,388,351
2	Right Livelihood grant	€ 1,195,184
3	Fee-based activities	€ 370,602
4	Other contributions	€ 53,023

Expenses € 5,997,499



1	7 Regional Master's programmes	€ 2,114,551
2	Human resources	€ 1,885,086
3	Operational costs	€ 902,385
4	Children's Rights projects	€ 678,680
5	Research	€ 204,484
6	Communication and PR	€ 136,613
7	Training programmes	€ 34,067
8	Capacity building in Timor-Leste	€ 41,634

We wish to thank our generous partners for their in-kind donations:

- the city of Venice for the free rental of our headquarters, the Monastery of San Nicolò in Lido, Venice;

- the member universities that host students during the second semester and put at disposal faculty and staff;
- LifeBrain for offering free COVID-19 tests for the GC headquarters.

Sneak Peek at 2022...

Events & Courses

FEBRUARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Conference on <i>Mental Health: Children's perspectives on the Challenges and Ways Forward</i>, GC Asia-Pacific - Kathmandu School of Law, online • Global Campus General Assembly, online • Presentation of the Scholarship Programme for Afghan Students & Scholars at the European Parliament's Afghan Women Days, online • MOOC on <i>Socio-Economic Justice through Human Rights</i> • Announcement of the winner of the GC Visual Contest
MARCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Podcast series on <i>Engaging with Human Rights Scepticism</i> • 5th GC Human Rights Conversation, online
APRIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Campus - Right Livelihood Steering Group Meeting, Venice • Human Rights Pavillion by Koen Vanmechelen, Venice, in presence
MAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Classroom on <i>Internal Displacement</i>, GC Africa - Pretoria, in presence
JUNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venice School for Human Rights Defenders, Venice, in presence
JULY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Conference on the Global State of Human Rights, Venice, in presence • Concert by the Human Rights Orchestra and <i>Music and Human Rights</i> book launch, Venice, in presence • MOOC on <i>Scientific Freedom and Responsibility</i> • Nelson Mandela Moot Court Competition, Geneva/hybrid
SEPTEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cosmocafé, Venice, in presence

Christof Heyns — *In memoriam*



Global Campus Africa

Professor Christof Heyns, former Director of the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria (UP) (1999 - 2006), passed away on 29 March 2021. He was Dean of the Faculty of Law at UP from 2007 to 2010 and founding Co-Director of the Institute for International and Comparative Law in Africa (ICLA) at UP. Christof was UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions from 2010 to 2016 and was a member of the UN Human Rights Committee from 2017 to 2020. In each of these positions, he made significant, original and long-lasting contributions. As Director of the Centre for Human Rights, he left his fingerprint on the heart and soul of the institution. The Centre's logo – Africa as a butterfly – was his brainchild, based on the notion that a minor or seemingly insignificant change or action can have momentous, consequential outcomes or consequences. He captured our essence in the phrase “excellence with Ubuntu”. It was Christof who took the initiative towards establishing the Master's in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa Programme, which is an integral part of the Global Campus of Human Rights.

As Special Rapporteur, Christof drew attention to cutting-edge human rights issues such as the use of force by private security providers in the law enforcement contexts, the use of

drones and autonomous weapons in armed conflict or counter-terrorism operations, and the role of forensic science in protecting the right to life. In 2016, he chaired the UN Independent Investigation on Burundi. As a member of the Human Rights Committee, he was pivotal in the drafting of General Comment 37 on the right of peaceful assembly (Article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights). As an academic, he was recognised internationally as a leading expert in the field of international human rights law, including right to life issues and regional human rights mechanisms, and he has published widely on these matters. His experience as Special Rapporteur drew him to explore an area surprisingly neglected by legal academics – the right to life and freedom from violence, and he published widely around these themes. He also was a member of the Working Group on Death Penalty, Extra-Judicial, Summary or Arbitrary Killings and Enforced Disappearances in Africa of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. He has been leading discussions at the level of the Commission on how to curb the excessive use of police force in Africa.

His death is a great loss, and he will be truly missed by us and so many others across the world. But what a legacy this giant leaves.

Dimitra Papadopoulou — *In memoriam*



Global Campus Europe

Professor Emerita Dimitra Papadopoulou from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki passed away on 21 April 2021. She founded the first UNESCO Chair in a Greek academic institution at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in 1997, as a result of her vision and scientific vigilance in the academic disciplines of Social Psychology and Peace Education as well as her deep conviction of the necessity to foster a culture of peace in education and society. She worked for the UNESCO Chair tirelessly for two decades with absolute devotion and self-denial, with dynamism and academic integrity, while serving the same goals in her scientific work and activity throughout her academic career, both in Greece and abroad. She highlighted the interdisciplinarity of the UNESCO Chair's academic field and its importance for the education of students of all disciplines of the university.

As one of the original pioneers of the GC Europe Master's Programme (EMA), Dimitra contributed decisively to the advancement of global values and human dignity through

inter-university cooperation as well as to the internationalisation of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She was deeply committed to the right to culture and the protection of cultural property. This was one of the main thematic areas in which she and her colleagues from Thessaloniki contributed to EMA's cooperation in the early years, and it was highly appreciated by the students. In the second semester, students always felt welcomed and greatly supported in Thessaloniki, largely thanks to Dimitra's personal involvement.

As fellow UNESCO Chairs, Dimitra had a close bond with our founder Professor Antonio Papisca and remained a very strong and treasured supporter of the cooperation until her retirement as EMA Director in 2018, and even beyond.

The legacy that Dimitra leaves to the Global Campus of Human Rights, the UNESCO Chair and to the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is and will remain profound.

Visit us in our Venice Headquarters

Nestled between the lagoon and the beach on the Lido of Venice, the 14th century Monastery of San Nicolò is home to the Global Campus of Human Rights Headquarters. It was generously provided to us for free by the city of Venice over 20 years ago, after its former inhabitants, a small group of Franciscan monks, relocated to another monastery on the idyllic island of San Francesco del Deserto. In our beautiful premises, we host the first semester of the GC Europe Master's Programme; our specialised human rights library; the Venice School for Human Rights Defenders; and the Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy Summer School — along with many other projects and activities. With our Memorandum of Understanding with the city of Venice, as well as with other partners, we host additional external events and activities within our classrooms and sun-lit courtyard. The monastery has thus also been the location of beautiful classical concerts, art exhibitions, and even features in a 1970s James Bond movie!



Nowadays, our charming historic grounds have office space, meeting rooms and classrooms, and are easily accessed by public transportation or by walking along the lagoon. Should you want to visit us to see the monastery and meet with our staff, please contact us at info@gchumanrights.org or +39 041 2720911.





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South East Europe
Latin America-
Caribbean

Asia-Pacific
Caucasus
Arab World
Africa

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01. Global Campus of Human Rights Annual Reports

2022

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