

Editorial

Having first been published in 2017, this is the fourth volume of the *Global Campus Human Rights Journal*. The *Journal* is published under the aegis of the Global Campus of Human Rights, which consists of the seven leading Master's programmes in Human Rights and Democracy, presented in Europe, South East Europe, Africa, the Asia Pacific, the Caucasus, Latin America and the Arab World. These programmes – and this *Journal* – are all supported by the European Union. While the *Journal* is open to all scholars, it also provides a particular opportunity for the voices of a younger generation – post-graduate students – to be heard, allowing a diversity of regional perspectives.

This volume of the *Global Campus Human Rights Journal* consists of three parts.

The first part is a 'Special focus: Selected developments in the area of children's rights'. This is the second occasion on which the *Journal* devotes special attention to the rights of children. The special focus is a product of this collaboration between the Global Campus of Human Rights and the Right Livelihood Foundation. In 2019 a cooperation agreement was signed between the Global Campus of Human Rights and the Right Livelihood Foundation. Its purpose is to 'promote the acknowledgment and observance of human and child rights and to strengthen the participation of children in all matters affecting their lives in the present and in the future'. The Right Livelihood Foundation is a Swedish charity organisation, the mission of which is to honour and support courageous people solving global problems. The Foundation is a politically-independent and non-ideological platform for the voices of its Laureates to be heard.

The articles in this part are linked to the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty (2019). In 2020 the 'Global Classroom 2020', which was presented virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, focused on the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty and the implementation of its recommendations. These Global Classrooms, a feature of the Global Campus since 2013, brings together students and professors from all regional hubs for a week-long conference where a topic of common interest is studied, analysed and discussed. The Global Classroom facilitates interaction among students from the different regional programmes by

organising dedicated activities and providing a forum for discussion and networking.

The articles in this part of the *Journal* are all products of collaboration between students and staff working with each of the regional Master's programmes within the framework of the collaboration between the Global Campus of Human Rights and the Right Livelihood Foundation.

The editors of the 'special focus' part of the *Journal* are Manu Krishan, Reina-Marie Loader and Imke Steimann. In a separate editorial, they provide a context to the seven contributions – one each from the constituent Global Campus programmes – in this special section.

The second part of the *Journal* consists of an article of a general bearing. This article considers the perceptions of Lebanese and non-Lebanese residents of Tripoli and surroundings about the 17 October 2019 wave of protests. At that time, Lebanon had witnessed an unprecedented wave of mass protests and mobilisation spreading throughout the country. The city of Tripoli, Lebanon's second-largest and one of the most deprived cities in the country, was targeted for field research, conducted in January 2020, using a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods.

This study was a veritable team effort of students of the Arab Master's programme in Democracy and Human Rights (ArMA), which is one of the regional programmes comprising the Global Campus of Human Rights. Working closely with the ArMA students, Elias Dahrouge edited the text and directed the writing process.

The third part of the *Journal* contains a regular feature of the *Journal*, a discussion of 'recent developments' in the fields of human rights and democratisation in the regions covered by the Global Campus of Human Rights. In this issue, developments during 2019 in South East Europe and the Caucasus are covered. These two discussions complement similar overviews of recent developments in four other regions (Europe, sub-Saharan Africa, the 'Arab world' and the Asia Pacific), contained in the first issue of the 2020 volume of the *Journal*.

After four years at the helm, the current editorial team, based at the African hub of the Global Campus, will hand over to a new team, based at the Asia Pacific Master's programme working out of Mahidol University. Mike Hayes, who takes over the convening role, acted as co-editor in this phase of the *Journal*. It has been our privilege to oversee the fledgling years of the *Journal*. Our gratitude goes to everyone who contributed to the *Journal* throughout these years. A special word of thanks to Lizette Hermann of the Pretoria University Law Press (PULP), who was responsible for layout, and to Isabeau de Meyer for her impeccable editorial assistance.

Best wishes to the new team in propelling the *Global Campus Human Rights Journal* into ever-increasing prominence and relevance!

Frans Viljoen
Convening editor (2017-2020)