



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair in
Human Rights and Human Security
University of Graz, Austria



ZENTRUM ZUR FÖRDERUNG DER PROMOTION OF
MENSCHENRECHTE HUMAN RIGHTS
IN GEMEINDEN AT THE LOCAL AND
UND REGIONEN REGIONAL LEVELS

Under the auspices of UNESCO



HUMAN RIGHTS GO LOCAL: WHAT WORKS

FROM INTENTIONS TO COMMITMENTS:
TOWARDS THE EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE
IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1 -7 February 2022

Academy Programme

The event is organized by the International Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels under the auspices of UNESCO and the UNESCO Chair in Human Rights and Human Security in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN-Habitat, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, the Provincial Government Styria, the City of Graz and the University of Graz.



Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
European and International
Affairs



Human Rights Go Local: What Works

Academy & Conference on Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels 2022

***"From Intentions to Commitments:
Towards the Effective and Sustainable Implementation of Human Rights"***

1 – 8 February 2022

Programme Outline

(version: February 2022)

The Academy takes place from 1 February to 8 February 2022. The first three days of the Academy are dedicated to three thematic strands on human rights commitments at the local level around the world. A networking event will be held on 4 February, in particular for next generation human rights professionals. After a two-day break, the participants will reunite on 7 February to synthesise the findings and proposals of the event into the Outcome Document expressing possible ways forward for local governments.

Aims, approach and target groups

The Academy aims to facilitate exchange on eye-level between different actors, regions and governance levels. The event is cooperative in that it uses a peer-to-peer learning and multi-actor approach to collaboratively generate knowledge and credible encouragements to human rights at the local and regional levels. There are no lectures or traditional teaching methods. The goal of the event is to bring together, match and synthesise different experiences, attempts, approaches, and visions in relation to our topic. The organisers believe that everyone who attends the Academy has something meaningful to contribute and can learn from it, regardless of their degree of knowledge or experience. Participants are urged to participate actively in all sessions.



Agenda

All times are listed in CET (GMT+1)

Tuesday, 1 February 2022: Drivers and actors of human rights commitments

Day 1 is devoted to the developments around the world to strengthen local governments' commitments to human rights. Thereby, a stocktaking of drivers and actors of human rights commitments at local / regional level takes place. The goal is to collect and map initiatives and policies that have a tangible impact on municipal activities around the world.

Participants are invited to highlight existing strategies in their respective regions and pinpoint their thematic priorities, drivers and actors. The extent to which these initiatives are related to the realization of Agenda 2030, the New Urban Agenda, and how they achieve the pledge to "leave no one behind" will be a vital component of these discussions.

11:30-12:00 **Opening ceremony**
Academy organisers

12:00-13:00 **Plenary Session A**
Moderation | Gerd Oberleitner

Impulse speeches by:

Geraldine Guille, Fundamental Rights Agency | FRA's Framework for Human Rights Cities in the EU

Linda Tinio, UNESCO | The International Coalition of Cities against Racism as Driver of Human Rights Commitments

Robert Lewis Lettington, UN Habitat |

Sylvia Yazid, Bandung (IDN) | Localizing Human Rights: Bottom-Up, Top-Down, or a bit of both? The Bandung Experience

Jackie Smith, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (US) | Bringing Human Rights Home – Mobilizing Municipalities around the UPR Review Process

13:00-13:30 Break

13:30-14:30 **Workshop session**
two parallel workshop groups covering the same content

- Workshop Session 1: Drivers¹ and actors of commitment:

Part A: challenges and possible solutions

Example questions:

- What are the most important drivers of commitment?
- Which actors inspired the local commitment and how?
- What approaches and initiatives work in which local context?
- What challenges exist in driving human rights commitment at local level? E.g. data gaps, biased-research, transferability, institutional challenges, etc.
- What are possible solutions to these challenges?

Part B: requirements and recommendations

Example questions:

- What are the key requirements to drive and enable HR commitment at the local level?

¹ Such as: common principles, frameworks, declarations, research, etc.

- What makes research a solid base for tailored and contextualized HR Commitments? Preconditions and requirements
- How can local initiatives be more clearly connected to efforts by national governments and international organisations to meet the SDGs?
- What are the crucial actors of a broad collaboration and participatory approach to elaborate the commitment?

14:30-15:00 Break

15:00-15:30 **Closing**
 Moderation | Gerd Oberleitner, UNESCO Chair
 Summary of workshop findings |
 Thoughts on the day | Paul Lappalainen, Stockholm University (SWE)

Wednesday, 2 February 2022: Local development of commitment: Exchange of experiences

Day 2 is all about exchange and interaction about “what works” in the local development of commitment to human rights. Participants will share the concrete tools and measures proven effective in their local contexts to support local governments in achieving stronger human rights commitments. This includes, for example, the establishment of institutions or procedures, the adoption of frameworks or accreditation processes, review mechanisms (including peer- and self-assessments), the adoption and implementation of action plans, and so on. Against the backdrop of achieving the goals set by Agenda 2030, the New Urban Agenda and the pledge to “leave no one behind”, best practices and successful methods are shared. Challenges encountered are discussed as well as solutions applied. The transferability of proven practices (including Local Voluntary Reviews) to other regions and settings will be discussed too.

11:45-12:00 Introduction and organisational matters

12:00-13:00 **Plenary Session B**
 Moderation | Wanda Tiefenbacher, UNESCO Centre
 Impulse speeches by
 Fabio Andrade, Eugene, Oregon (US) | City of Eugene Triple Bottom Line Analysis tool
 Najat Zarrouk, African Local Government Academy (ALGA) | ALGA’s best practices leading to commitment to good governance and human rights
 Morten Kjaerum and Ilhami Alkan Olsson, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law | Turkey’s Human Rights City Experiences
 Camilla Stavnes Hisdal, International adviser, City of Bergen (NOR) | Human Rights City Bergen
 Michael Wrentschur, InterACT and University of Graz (AT) | Transforming Access to Housing with Legislative Theatre

13:00-13:30 Break



13:30-14:30

Workshop session

two parallel workshop groups covering the same content

▪ Workshop Session 2: Local development of commitment

Part A: challenges and possible solutions

- How can a participatory approach help the elaboration of commitment?
- What are the main challenges in formulating and contextualising human rights commitments? Refer to the substantive, procedural and institutional dimension of commitments.
- Discuss the challenges and solutions in effectively implementing a participatory approach to contextualise HR commitments at local level.

Part B: requirements and recommendations

- What is needed to build an enabling environment for the realisation of human rights?

14:30-15:00

Break

15:00-15:30

Closing

Moderation | Wanda Tiefenbacher, UNESCO Centre

Summary of workshop findings

Thoughts on the day | Barbara Oomen, Utrecht University (NL)

Thursday, 3 February 2022: From commitment to responsibility

On Day 3, participants will be given the opportunity to share their visions of human rights commitment at the local level. Based on the mapped initiatives and experiences made across the regions, the steps necessary to attain the intended goals will be defined. Both, broader visions such as "leave no one behind," as well as concrete benchmarks and conditions to increase human rights commitment of local authorities will be considered. Next generation human rights professionals have a crucial role during the day, as they are the stakeholders of the future.

11:45-12:00

Introduction and organisational matters

12:00-13:00

Plenary Session C

Panel A: Frameworks of responsibility

Moderator | Morten Kjaerum, Director of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

Discussants:

Bahram Ghazi | OHCHR

Konstantinos Tararas | UNESCO

Geraldine Guille | FRA

Jasmien Deklerck | KU Leuven, author of the HRGL Publication Vol. 3

Panel B: How to implement the frameworks

Moderator | Klaus Starl, Director of the UNESCO Centre



Discussants:

Nadine Mailloux, Montreal (CAN) | Ombudsman de Montréal

Aly Raposo, Winnipeg (CAN) | The Human Rights Committee of Council of Winnipeg

Andreas Heck and Sebastian Bartsch | Cologne Human Rights City Initiative (GER)

Danijel Cubelic, Heidelberg (GER) | ECCAR Vice President, Coalition's administrative office

Siegfried Nagl, Graz (AT) | Former Mayor of the Human Rights City Graz

13:00-13:30 Break

13:30-14:30 Workshop session
two parallel workshop groups covering the same content

- Workshop Session 3: Implementing frameworks

The workshops will be held to elaborate local authorities' and practitioners' feedback and recommendations to international organisations. Their experience in implementing international frameworks and documents form the basis for this feedback. The experiences and visions of the next generation will feature strongly in this session.

14:30-15:00 Break

15:00-15:30 Closing
Representatives of local authorities present their feedback, discussion
Thoughts on the day | Agnes Romanin, European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy at the University Graz (AT)

Friday, 4 February 2022: Networking and opportunities for professionalization

On Day 4, the next generation human rights professionals will have an informal place to engage and connect with established human rights experts and practitioners. The networking day seeks to establish a link between today's stakeholders and tomorrow's actors in order to exchange practical knowledge of working in the field, discuss the realization of future perspectives and aspirations, and provide insight into the opportunity to professionalize in human rights, a field of professional activity that is becoming increasingly important at the local level.

13.30-14:00 Introduction of human rights experts
Kostantinos Tararas | UNESCO
Milou Jansen | digital rights expert, Municipality of Amsterdam (NL)
Vickie Casanova-Willis | former Director of US Human Rights Network (US)
Lionel Nzamba Nzamba (UCLG Africa – Youth Unit)

14:00-15:00 Four parallel roundtable sessions



Human rights experts and practitioners engage in informal discussion with next generation human rights professionals and practitioners

Monday, 7 February 2022: Building bridges towards sustainable results

Day 5 is dedicated to synthesizing the findings from the previous days of discussion and collaboratively finalizing an Outcome Document aimed at local governments. The Outcome Document shall draw together encouragements for local governments on how to best implement regional and global agendas at the local level following a human rights-based approach.

11:45-12:00 Introduction and organisational matters

12:00-13:00

Plenary Session D

Moderation | Markus Möstl

Impulse speeches by

Konstantinos Tararas | UNESCO

Seynabou Dia | OHCHR

Harald Bergmann | Spokesperson on Human Rights, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe

Gyonggu Shin | Gwangju International Center, Gwangju (KOR)

Klaus Starl | Director of the UNESCO Centre, Graz (AT)

13:00-13:30 Break

13:30-14:30

Workshop sessions: 3 parallel workshops

Aim of the workshops: Collaborative finalisation of the Outcome Document:

- Regional Workshop Europe, North America, Oceania
- Regional Workshop Africa and Western Asia
- Regional Workshop Eastern and South Asia

14:30-15:00 Break

15:00-15:30

Closing

Moderation | Klaus Starl, UNESCO Centre, Gerd Oberleitner, UNESCO Chair

Reporting of workshop findings





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HUMAN RIGHTS GO LOCAL: WHAT WORKS

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8 February 2022

Conference Programme

The event is organized by the International Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels under the auspices of UNESCO and the UNESCO Chair in Human Rights and Human Security in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN-Habitat, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, the Provincial Government Styria, the City of Graz and the University of Graz.



Human Rights Go Local: What Works

Conference on Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels 2022

8 February 2022, online

12:00 – 14:00 CET (GMT+1)

Programme

(version: 4 February 2022)

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| 12:00 | Opening and Welcome Renate Kicker / Director of the Foundation for Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels Klaus Starl / Director of the UNESCO Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels |
| | Welcome Addresses Peter Riedler / Rector of the University of Graz Hermann Schützenhöfer / Governor of the Federal Province of Styria Ernst-Peter Brezovszky / Ambassador, Federal Ministry of European and International Affairs of the Republic of Austria |
| 12:10 | Presentation of the Academy's Outcome Document Gerd Oberleitner / UNESCO Chair in Human Rights and Human Security at the University of Graz |
| 12:15 | From Intentions to Commitments: Towards the Effective and Sustainable Implementation of Human Rights at the Local Level High-level panel discussion on the implementation of findings and encouragements of the Academy with interactive elements from theatre group InterACT Moderation: Renate Kicker / Director of the Foundation for Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels Klaus Starl / Director of the UNESCO Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels |

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|-------|---|
| 12:20 | Panel opening round Discussants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gabriela Ramos / Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human Sciences of UNESCO • Todd Howland / Chief of Branch for Development, Economic, Social Rights, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) • Rafael Tuts / Director of the Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat • Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos / European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights • Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi / Secretary General of UCLG-Africa • Macoura Coulibaly Dao / President of the Network of Local Elected Women of Africa (REFELA), Mayor of Fombolo, Ivory Coast • Fernanda Gil Lozano / Director of the International Center for the Promotion of Human Rights (CIPDH-UNESCO) • Gyonggu Shin / Human Rights Policy Advisor of the City of Gwangju, South Korea • Elke Kahr / Mayor of Graz, Austria |
| 12:35 | Legislative theatre for transformation An Introduction by Michael Wrentschur / Creative Director of InterACT and Professor at the University of Graz |
| 12:40 | Panel Discussion moderated by: Michael Wrentschur Drivers and Actors of Commitment Local development of Commitment From Commitment to Responsibility |
| 13:50 | Farewell address Renate Kicker / Director of the Foundation for Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels Klaus Starl / Director of the UNESCO Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels |

Simultaneous interpretation into German, English, and French will be provided during the Conference.

