

Contents

News.....2
 Engagement with Human Rights Bodies5
 SCHRR Events6
 Other Events8
 Books, Chapters and Articles 11
 Reports and Evidence..... 12
 Blogs..... 13
 Current Projects 14
 PhD Success 15
 LLM News..... 16
 Human Rights Law Clinic . 17

The 2022/23 academic year has been characterised by both change and continuity in the Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research (SCHRR). There has been change in the



directorship of the Centre as Matthew Evans and Aisling O’Sullivan joined as Co-Directors (replacing Nuno Ferreira and Charlotte Skeet) and continuity as Stephanie Berry remains in place as Co-Director. We have spent the year reflecting on the achievements of the previous team of Co-Directors, consolidating the Centre’s strengths whilst also developing new directions, approaches and collaborations. SCHRR members have continued to publish and disseminate research in scholarly and popular outlets, to engage with practitioners, policymakers and international organisations, and to engage in our programme of events. The Rights Research Series continued in a blended in-person/online format and has seen many SCHRR members develop works in progress in a supportive and engaged environment. The Minority Rights Solidarity Network was officially launched at SCHRR in 2023 and continues to support engagement between academics and practitioners working in

the field of minority rights, with SCHRR members serving on the Network’s steering group. SCHRR hosted visiting doctoral and postdoctoral researchers (including Güneş Daşlı and Dr Yaar Dagan) as well as guest speakers at our events, including Prof. Laura Rival (University of Oxford) who presented at an event jointly hosted with the Sussex Sustainability Research Programme (SSRP). New PhD candidates have been welcomed and others have completed their studies. We also welcomed back two PhD graduates for launches of books based on their doctoral research at the Centre, Dr Stanely Mwangi Wanjiru and Dr Benjamin Thorne. The LLM International Human Rights Law associated with SCHRR has also continued with a new cohort of students, and has once again included exceptional engagement in producing practice-oriented research for human rights organisations in the Human Rights Law Clinic.

The nexus of interdisciplinary research, human rights practice and producing impact remains at the core of SCHRR’s activities and the whole SCHRR community can be proud of what we have achieved over the last year. We look to building on this further in the coming year!

Stephanie Berry, Matthew Evans and Aisling O’Sullivan

SCHRR Co-Directors

To find out more, please visit [SCHRR’s website](#)

News

In September 2023 Dr Matthew Evans and Dr Aisling O’Sullivan joined Dr Stephanie Berry in becoming Co-Directors of SCHRR. These appointments were to replace Dr Charlotte Skeet and Prof. Nuno Ferreira.

Prof. Chris Henderson was a visiting professor at the University of Bologna in Autumn 2022

Dr Samantha Velluti will be a Visiting Professor the University of Rome this Autumn (2023).

A post on the [LaPSe of Reason blog](#) by Prof. Ruth Stirton and Jody Harris (Honorary Associate at the Institute of Development Studies) reports on a recent workshop convened in Lusaka, Zambia, which shared the findings of the research project “The ‘right to nutrition’ in its social, legal and political context” and what it means for Zambia, and enabled conversations to strengthen action on a right to nutrition among stakeholders including legal, ethics and policy communities as well as programme designers, implementers and funders. The Johns Hopkins and SSRP-funded project was active from January 2018 to January 2020.



Ruth Stirton (third from left) and workshop participants.

Dr Elizabeth Craig will be speaking at a conference in Belgrade in September 2023 on 25 Years of Minority Rights Regime in Europe and 75 Years of the UDHR, her paper is on ‘Two Decades of Monitoring under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities: Lessons from Northern Ireland, North Macedonia and Ukraine’.

Prof. Amir Paz-Fuchs started an ESRC funded project entitled ‘Activating Employers’, in collaboration with Brighton and Deakin (Australia) universities, which concerns ‘social justice procurement’, or the way the state can, does, or should engage employers to support human, including labour, rights at work through procurement policies.

Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley was invited to write a lead essay for *Red Pepper* magazine on immigration, rights and the illegal migration bill. The piece is called ‘[Racial Gatekeeping and ‘Radical Friendship](#)’. Bal also had a blog published in *Red Pepper*, ‘[Resistance in Leicester’s Garment District](#)’, which outlines findings of her project ‘Pandemic, Race and Rights: How Covid Re-Colonised Leicester’, funded by ESRC IAA.

After a successful year working as a Lecturer in Law at Sussex, Dr Thomas Ebbs has been awarded an ESRC Post-Doctoral Fellowship on ‘Feminist Regulatory Relationships with “the Usefulness” of the Law and Sex’ at Birkbeck. It is due to commence on 1 October 2023 and he will be mentored by Dr Tanya Serisier. Congratulations Tom!

Our new colleague, Dr Jessica Shurson completed her PhD on ‘Rethinking Comity: Resolving Conflicts in Transnational

Digital Investigations' at Queen Mary University of London in July. She was supervised by Prof. Ian Walden and Prof. Julia Hörnle. Congratulations Jess!

SCHRR were pleased to welcome Güneş Daşlı, a visiting PhD student to the School of Law, Politics and Sociology between October and November 2022. Güneş was hosted by Dr Matthew Evans and became an associate member of SCHRR. During her visit Güneş wrote a blogpost which can be found [here](#).

We are pleased to announce that Laurene Ajayi (pictured) is the new PhD representative for the Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research.



SCHRR responds to 'The Illegal Migration Bill'

On 13 March 2023, SCHRR held a rapid response roundtable in relation to the government's 'Illegal Migration Bill'. This raised a range of concerns, including the impact on children and trafficking victims, non-compliance with international law and the racialised implications of the bill. During the event interventions were made by Dr Jo Wilding, Dr Will McCready, Prof. Nuno Ferreira, Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley, Dr Stephanie Berry and Elif Demirbas, with 140 people attending the online event from academia, legal practice and civil society.

Following on from the event, SCHRR coordinated three submissions to the UK Parliament's Joint Commission on Human Rights' Inquiry as part of legislative scrutiny of the Bill. The first, by Jo Wilding and Shahrzad Fouladvand, covered detention, legal advice and modern slavery. The second, by Will McCready, focused on available safe routes to the UK as well as the human rights implications of the Bill.

Finally, the third, by Nuno Ferreira, Samantha Velluti, Bal Sokhi-Bulley and Stephanie Berry addressed compliance with international human rights obligations and the broader racialised and securitized implications of the Bill. The first and second submissions were cited as evidence in the final report of the Joint Commission on Human Rights.

SCHRR organises a panel at Vienna Conference

In conjunction with the Minority Rights Solidarity Network, SCHRR organised a panel entitled 'Minority Rights After the Vienna Declaration: Positive Progress or Missing in Action?' at a conference to celebrate the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights organised by the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights. The conference, 'UN-World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna 1993 – Strengthening Imperatives 30 Years After', held in Vienna, 27-29 September.

The SCHRR panel includes papers by: David Keane (Dublin City University) 'Reflections on the Role of ICERD in the Global Protection of Minorities'; Isilay Taban (Brighton University) 'An Afterthought No More: Mainstreaming the Rights of Minorities in UN Treaty Body Practice'; Anna-Maria Bíró, 'Global Governance on Minority Rights: Assessing Participation and Normative Trends in the UN Forum on Minority Issues' and the UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, Fernand de Varennes, 'Minority Rights after the Vienna Declaration: Positive Progress, Missing in Action... or an Unfinished Story?'. SCHRR Co-Director Stephanie Berry is panel chair.

Expert in Immigration Law Consulted by Parliament and Other National Bodies

Over the past year Jo Wilding has given evidence to four Parliamentary enquiries or Scrutiny Committees, two of which have reported and cited her evidence. She also responded to National Audit Office review of civil legal aid, and is contributing (at their request) to the Bar Council's response to the consultation on fees for work under the Illegal Migration Bill. She also met with the professional regulator for immigration advisers, the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner, and with the Solicitors Regulation Authority as part of their regulatory work.

Dr Jo Wilding on BBC Radio and TV

Over the past year, Jo has been regularly interviewed on TV and Radio (including BBC TV news, BBC Radio 5 Live, Radio London, Radio Kent, Radio Sussex, Radio



Jo Wilding

Wales, CGTN TV News) on current refugee related issues including the Rwanda Judgment in the High Court, the Illegal Migration Bill and the Bibby Stockholm Barge.

Queer Judgments Project

In the tradition of re-writing judgments projects, Nuno Ferreira and Marica Moscati (Sussex) along with Sen Raj (MMU) have gone on co-ordinating the Queer Judgments Project. The project includes several outputs, including an edited collection to be published in 2024,

as well as a special journal issue and a range of creative outputs.

Negotiating Queer Identities Following Forced Migration

The project 'Negotiating Queer Identities Following Forced Migration' (NQIFM) – exploring the experiences of people who have left Iran to escape persecution or discrimination on grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity (SOGI) – is now in its second and final year. The fieldwork is practically concluded, and team members are working on the project's outputs, including a book, several journal articles, a documentary and a poetry booklet. Team members have also been presenting provisional findings at various events.

Women in Refugee Law

Women in Refugee Law (WiRL) is a collaborative platform for researchers, refugee women and practitioners co-convened by Dr Moira Dustin with Dr Christel Querton (UWE Bristol). Since launching in 2021, WiRL has: grown to 120 members, including researchers, refugees and asylum claimants ('experts by experience'), activists, policymakers and legal practitioners from around the world who are working on or have an interest in refugee law, policy and practice; established an expert and diverse Steering Group that meets biannually to plan WiRL's activities and strategies based on agreed values and objectives; developed a programme of quarterly 'Kitchen Table' events that bring the wider membership together to discuss new research and policy, plan future activities and identify common concerns; raised the profile of the network by holding a conference in November 2021 that brought together 70

academics, refugees, activists and practitioners from different countries; produced a [special issue of *Refugee Survey Quarterly*](#) including academic articles alongside ‘field reflections’ by practitioners and NGO stakeholders; developed a social media communications strategy and a [Twitter profile](#) to share WiRL’s activities, research and engaging in knowledge exchange; collaborated on a [Women in International Law symposium on the academic blog *Völkerrechtsblog*](#) for [International Women’s Day 2023](#) through a series of blogposts, authored by WiRL members. New members are welcome (membership is free). Please email [Moirra Dustin](#) or [Nicola Robbins](#) for details.

A New Network on Minority Rights

The last academic year saw the launch of a new Minority Rights Solidarity Network following an initial workshop hosted by the Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research in September 2022. Both Stephanie Berry and Elizabeth Craig are founding members and members of the steering committee. We see the network as playing a key role in the strengthening our work in international minority rights through cooperation, support, and reflections on the latest trends on minority rights protection with other experts and minority rights activists. For example, a number of network members participated in the UN Forum on Minority Issues in December 2022 and we have been working to support calls for a new minority rights treaty and reform of the current UN mechanisms of rights protection.



Elizabeth Craig introduces the Minority Rights Solidarity Network.

In May 2023 the Minority Rights Solidarity Network held a very successful first network event, focused on ‘UN Minority Rights and Reform’, organised in conjunction with SCHRR.



Minority Rights Event Participants

In relation to follow-up, they will be putting together a short briefing/memo for the incoming UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues which members will be able to sign. The Network’s website is [here](#).

Engagement with Human Rights Bodies

Dr Stephanie Berry is currently working with barristers from No. 5 Chambers on a communication to the UN Human Rights Committee on article 18 (freedom of thought, conscience and religion), on behalf of a French Muslim applicant against France.

In August 2022 Hannah Blitzer worked with the Center for International Environmental Law on assessing the conflicts between geoengineering and international human rights law and the implications for the right to a healthy environment.



Hannah Blitzer

Between January and June 2023 Hannah Blitzer was involved in supporting the UK and European environmental legal advocacy for an Additional Protocol on the Right to a Healthy Environment at the Council of Europe.

SCHRR Events

In the 2022-23 academic year, SCHRR had a busy events schedule, providing a forum for colleagues to test their ideas in work in progress seminars; celebrate the launch of monographs; develop collaborations; and respond to legal developments.

On 9 September 2022, Stephanie Berry, Elizabeth Craig and Isilay Taban organised the 'Minority Rights @ Sussex' Scoping Event. This adopted an informal roundtable format and brought together experts in minority rights from across the UK to discuss the added value and significance of minority rights in the 21st century, with the aim of fostering connections, finding common ground/synergies and exploring the potential for future collaborations.

On 26 October 2022, Güneş Daşlı (PhD Researcher, Jena Centre for Reconciliation Studies, Friedrich Schiller Universität, Germany and visiting scholar at SCHRR),

presented her work in progress on 'Seeking Agency in Transitional Justice: The Case of the Saturday Mothers in Turkey'.

On 23 November 2022, we held a PhD work in progress seminar. Laurene Abisioye Ajayi (SCHRR PhD Researcher) presented her PhD research, 'Imagining the Possibilities: Reconceptualizing Reproductive Freedom' with Dr Mary Frances Lukera acting as discussant. This was followed by Yaar Dagan (PhD Researcher, Keele School of Law, Keele University) who presented on 'Settler Colonialism, Drones and Law: The Case of Israel/Palestine'.

On 2 December 2022, we celebrated the publication of Dr Stanley Mwangi Wanjiru's (Lecturer in Law, University of Kent) monograph *Black Iconography and Colonial (re)production at the ICC: (In)dependence Cha Cha Cha?* (Routledge 2022). Dr Sarah Kendall (Reader in International Law, University of Kent), acted as a discussant. The book is based on Stanley's PhD, completed at Sussex.

On 8 February 2023, we started off the new year with another celebration. This time, of Dr Benjamin Thorne's (Lecturer in Law, University of Kent) monograph *The Figure of the Witness in International Criminal Tribunals: Memory, Atrocities and Transitional Justice* (Routledge 2022). Dr Nicola Palmer (Reader in Criminal Law, King's College London) acted as external discussant and Dr Josh Bowsher (Lecturer in Sociology, University of Sussex) acted as internal discussant. The book is based on Benjamin's PhD completed at Sussex.



Benjamin in conversation with Nicola Palmer.

On 24 February, Ceylan Begüm Yıldız delivered a work in progress seminar based on her PhD research entitled ‘The Murderer State will be Held to Account: The myth of the state and its violence’.

On 8 March, Dr Elizabeth Craig gave a work in progress seminar on her current research ‘(Re)appraising the Council of Europe’s Approach to Minority Rights in the Context of War in Ukraine’.



Elizabeth Craig presenting at SCHRR

On 13 March, SCHRR held a rapid response Roundtable on the Illegal Migration Bill. The online event, attended by 140 people, included interventions from Dr Jo Wilding, Dr Will McCready, Dr Nuno Ferreira, Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley, Dr Stephanie Berry and

Elif Demirbas. These interventions were subsequently used as the basis of submissions to the UK Parliament’s Joint Human Rights Committee.

On 14 March, Dr Qingxiu Bu gave a work in progress seminar based on his current research project ‘Automated Facial Recognition (AFR) and Human Rights/Privacy Implications’.

On 23 March, SCHRR hosted a PhD work in progress seminar. Matilde Rocca (PhD researcher University of Padova, visiting PhD student at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law and Sussex alum), introduced her PhD research on ‘Assessing the legality of State interference with private rescue operations at sea’. Sophia Taha (PhD researcher at Keele University) also presented her PhD work on ‘Postcolonial Resistance to U.K. Bureaucracy: Centring Migrant Women as they navigate “No Recourse to Public Funds”’.

On 10 May 2023, SCHRR hosted a joint research seminar with SSRP. Laura Rival, Professor of Anthropology of Development at the University of Oxford, gave a research seminar entitled ‘Being an Expert Witness at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights: Anthropological Approaches to Indigenous Strategies for Legal Empowerment’, with Dr Helen Dancer (SCHRR and Sussex Law School) and Dr Evan Killick (SSRP and School of Global Studies) acting as discussants.

Following on from the successful event in September 2022, on 11 May 2023, the newly formed Minority Rights Solidary Network in conjunction with SCHRR held a workshop ‘What Next? 30 Years After the UN Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities’. Over the course of the day, 15 speakers, from across the world, explored the adequacy of the current

international minority rights framework, minority representation within the current system, conceptual issues and a range of options for moving forward, including the adoption of a minority rights treaty.



Elizabeth Craig, Corinne Lennox and Anna-Maria Biro (in person) and John Packer (virtually).



Workshop participants

On 20 June SCHRR held their Annual Workshop at the University of Sussex. The event consisted of two presentation sessions: 'Rights of Minorities and Marginalised Groups' and 'Human Rights, Advocacy and Globalisation'. Attendees were invited to give informal presentations on their own research interests in a bid to foster future collaborations.

Other Events

Dr Stephanie Berry was invited to present her draft chapter on 'Objective 16: Empower migrants and societies to realize

full inclusion and social cohesion' at the international conference on 'The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: Progress, Challenges and the Way forward to a Principled Implementation' (24-25 November 2022).

In November 2022 Dr Marianna Iliadou presented her paper 'Surrogacy in Europe: The Findings of the ECtHR and the Law Commission's Proposals' at the Future Directions in Surrogacy Law Conference held at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London.

In December 2022 Dr Matthew Evans was invited to speak at the International Transformative Justice Network workshop 'Taking Transformative Justice Forward: An Exchange of Concepts and Modes of Practice'.

Dr Ashleigh Keall presented 'The Pervasive Turn to Harm in Religious Freedom Cases' at 'Flashpoints Conference: Law, Human Rights and Religion' at Nottingham Trent University (13 December 2022).

In April 2023, Dr Moira Dustin, Prof. Nuno Ferreira, Dr Kamran Matin and Mehran Rezaei Toroghi presented a panel on 'Queer, Iranian and in exile: Comparing the experiences of Iranian queer refugees living in Turkey, the UK and Canada' for a GenSeM IMISCOE and Ethnicity, Race and Diverse Societies Network (University of Sussex) seminar.

In May 2023, Mehran Rezaei-Toroghi presented on 'Experiences of Iranian Queer Refugees in Turkey, the UK and Canada' at 'Rainbow Pathways: Navigating the Journeys of LGBT+ Asylum Seekers' at the University of Nottingham.

In May 2023, Dr Moira Dustin, Dr Kamran Matin and Dr Nilofar Shidmehr presented on a panel on 'The intersection of methodological and ethical quandaries

from the perspective of research about and with Iranian queer refugees' at the CARFMS23: 'Racism, Rights, and the Responsibility to Protect' conference, York University, Toronto. Dr Moira Dustin gave a presentation on 'Pathways to protection: intersectionality in women's claims for protection' at the same conference.

In May 2023 Dr Giorgia Baldi presented a paper titled 'Secular affects: the semiotic of article 9 of the ECHR' at the 'International Roundtable of the Semiotics of Law' in Rome.

Dr Marianna Iliadou presented her paper 'International Surrogacy: Assessing the Law Commission's Final Report in Light of the ECHR Framework' in June 2023 at the Health Law and Regulation Unit – 10 Year Anniversary Conference at the University of Liverpool.

In June 2023, Prof. Nuno Ferreira presented on 'Asylum, identity, and time: The experiences of queer Iranians in exile' at the 'International Conference on the Temporal Dimensions of Migration Law' in Amsterdam.

In June 2023 Hannah Blitzer co-organised a seminar for UKELA on the right to healthy water: 'Is there a Human Right to Healthy Water – Potential Liability for Persistent Water Polluters in Human Rights Law'.

Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley was invited to give a keynote presentation at a one-day conference on 'Alternative Perspectives on Violence, Identity and Borders' held on 16 June 2023 at University of Sussex. Her keynote was entitled 'Is there a Right not to be Abandoned? Border Violence and the Political-Spiritual Imperative of *Hukam*'.

Dr Jane Thomson and Dr Ashleigh Keall presented 'Silent all these years: Public policy, expressive harm, and the legacy of *Christie v York Corporation*' at the '10th

Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law Annual Conference' at Utrecht University (28-30 June 2023).



Jane and Ashleigh in Utrecht.

In July 2023 Dr Shahrzad Fouladvand ran a workshop on 'Modern Slavery Problem Profile' with East Sussex County Council and Sussex Police as part of her Higher Education Innovation Funding (HEIF).

In July 2023 Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley was invited to participate in a roundtable at the SeNSS Annual Conference, 12-14 July 2023, University of Sussex. Her paper was entitled 'Migration, Refugeehood and Justice'

In August 2023 Prof. Nuno Ferreira presented on 'Queer, Iranian and in exile: Comparing the experiences of Iranian queer refugees living in Turkey, the UK and Canada' at 'The Migration Conference' in Hamburg.

In September, Matthew Evans presented two papers and acted as a panel chair at the 'Critical Legal Conference 2023: Sanctuary', held at Durham University. His papers were "Visible Mending" and 'Transitional Justice' and 'Hiding in and

from Law as a Discipline'. He chaired the panel 'Hiding in or from law – State Violence, Transitional Justice, and Accountability', in the stream 'Hiding in

and from Law', convened by Ceylan Begüm Yıldız.

Books, Chapters and Articles

Craig, Elizabeth (forthcoming) '[Twenty-Five Years of Minority Rights Monitoring in Ukraine](#)'. *European Yearbook on Minority Issues*.

Dustin, Moira (2022) '[Pathways to Refugee Protection for Women: Victims of Violence or Genuine Lesbians?](#)'. *Refugee Survey Quarterly* 41(3), 393–419.

Ferreira, Nuno (2022) '[Utterly unbelievable: the discourse of “fake” SOGI asylum claims as a form of epistemic injustice](#)'. *International Journal of Refugee Law* 34(3-4), 303–326.

Fouladvand, Shahrzad and Tony Ward (2023) '[Criminal Law Categories as Ideological Constructs: The Case of Human Trafficking](#)'. In David Gordon Scott and Joe Sim (eds) *Demystifying Power, Crime and Social Harm: The Work and Legacy of Steven Box*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

Keall, Ashleigh and Jane Thomson (2022) '[Silent all these years: Public policy, expressive harm, and the legacy of *Christie v York Corporation*](#)'. *University of New Brunswick Law Journal* 73, 232-267.

Manzotti, Cecilia (2023) '[Nationality Status Determination in Asylum Procedures under the CEAS and the Potential Impact of the “New Pact on Migration and Asylum”](#)'. *International Journal of Refugee Law* 35(2), 193–212.

Mora, Agathe (2023) '[“Property rights are human rights”: Bureaucratization and the logics of rule of law interventionism in postwar Kosovo](#)'. *PoLAR* 46(1), 82-96.

Sokhi-Bulley, Bal (2023) '[Seva as radical Friendship: On Foucault, Spirituality and the Farmers' Protest](#)'. *Humanity* 14(2), 230-247.

Sokhi-Bulley, Bal, (forthcoming) '[After Rights' is Friendship: On Abandonment, Obligation and the Stranger](#)'. *International Journal of Human Rights*.

Sokhi-Bulley, Bal and Louiza Odysseos (eds) (forthcoming), Special Issue on 'After Rights? Politics, Ethics, Aesthetics', *International Journal of Human Rights*.

Velluti, Samantha (2023) '[Questioning legal personhood – A critique of the legal and jurisprudential underpinnings of EU immigration and asylum law](#)'. *European Law Open* 2(3), 543-574.

Wilding, Jo (2022) '[Beyond Advice Deserts: Strategic Ignorance and the lack of access to asylum legal advice](#)'. *Amicus Curiae* 2, 3(3), 472-489.

Wilding, Jo (2023) [The Legal Aid Market Challenges for Publicly Funded Immigration and Asylum Legal Representation](#). Bristol: Policy Press.

Wilding, Jo (2023) '[Ten Years of LASPO: immigration legal aid now and the cost-shifting effects of austerity cuts](#)'. *The Journal of Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Law* 37(3), 221-238.

Reports and Evidence

Ferreira, Nuno (2022) '[Submission to the UK parliament's justice and home affairs committee's "family migration" inquiry](#)'. SOGICA – University of Sussex, September.

Ferreira, Nuno (2023) '[Submission to the UK Parliament's Human Rights \(Joint Committee\) "Human Rights of Asylum Seekers in the UK" inquiry](#)'. SOGICA – University of Sussex, March.

Ferreira, Nuno, Bal Sokhi-Bulley, Samantha Velluti and Stephanie Berry (2023) '[Written Evidence to the Joint Human Rights Committee on the Illegal Migration Bill](#)', Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research, April.

Ferreira, Nuno, Judith Townend, William McCready, Erika Carrière, Hannah Farkas and Samantha Robinson (2022) '[Developing a cost-free legal advice service for asylum seekers and migrants in Brighton and Hove](#)'. Project Report. Brighton: University of Sussex Migration Law Clinic.

Fouladvand, Shahrzad and Tony Ward (2023) '[Submission to the UK Parliament's Home Affairs Select Committee inquiry into Human Trafficking](#)', UK Parliament Home Affairs Select Committee, June.

McCready, William (2023) '[Written Evidence to the Joint Human Rights Committee on the Illegal Migration Bill](#)', Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research, April.

Wilding, Jo (2023) '[The adequacy and availability of immigration legal advice for forced migrants in Wales](#)', Welsh Government, January.

Wilding, Jo (2023) '[Migrant integration: research on immigration legal advice services](#)', Welsh Government, January.

Wilding, Jo (2023) '["It's a no-brainer": Local authority funding for immigration legal advice in the UK](#)', Justice Together, May.

Wilding, Jo and Shahrzad Fouladvand (2023) '[Written Evidence to the Joint Human Rights Committee on the Illegal Migration Bill](#)', Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research, April.

Blogs

Baldi, Giorgia, (2023) '[Gendering the Shamima Begum case: “Jihadi brides” and the victim/perpetrator dichotomy](#)'. *ADiM Blog*, 31 May.

Evans, Matthew (2022) '[An unconvincing skepticism: Responding to Khaitan on “scholactivism”](#)'. *LaPSe of Reason: Blogging from the School of Law, Politics and Sociology at the University of Sussex*, 30 August.

Ferreira, Nuno, William McCready and Judith Townend (2022) '[Refugee rights at further risk as the immigration and asylum “advice drought” grows](#)'. *The Justice Gap*, 12 December.

Manzotti, Cecilia (2022) '[The \(mis\)identification of stateless asylum-seekers in the Italian asylum procedure](#)'. *ADiM Blog*, 31 October.

Thorne, Benjamin and Matthew Evans (2022) '[The Pitfalls and Potential of Researching and Teaching “Stuff”](#)'. *LaPSe of Reason: Blogging from the School of Law, Politics and Sociology at the University of Sussex*, 17 November.

Wilding, Jo (2022) '[New Freedom of Information data indicates half of asylum applicants are unable to access legal aid representation](#)'. *Refugee Law Initiative Blog*, 4 November.

Wilding, Jo (2023) '[The Home Office is sabotaging its own plan to tackle the asylum backlog](#)'. *The Conversation*, 1 March.

Wilding, Jo (2023) '[The legal aid sector is collapsing and millions more may soon be without access to justice – new data](#)'. *The Conversation*, 7 June.

Wilding, Jo (2023) '[“Serious decline” in legal aid provision reveals extent of post-LASPO crisis](#)'. *The Justice Gap*, 28 June.

Current Projects

Dr Stephanie Berry

Stephanie was invited to contribute a chapter to *The Oxford Commentary of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration* edited by Prof. Vincent Chetail on 'Objective 16: Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion'.

Stephanie is currently working on a monograph entitled *Islam in the European Court of Human Rights: From Securitization to Desecuritization?*, using securitization theory to analyse the European Court's jurisprudence in cases where the construction of Islam as a threat appears to have influenced its reasoning.

Dr Aisling O'Sullivan

Aisling is working on a co-authored monograph (with Prof. William A Schabas, Middlesex and Leiden Universities) entitled *Internment on Trial: A history of the Ireland v United Kingdom case under the European Convention on Human Rights* to be published by Cambridge University Press in due course.

Dr Matthew Evans

Matthew is currently working on a monograph exploring trade union confederations' understandings of and approaches to human rights.

Dr Elizabeth Craig

Elizabeth is currently exploring the use of petitions by minority groups under both the League of Nations minorities regime and historically within the UN.

Prof. Chris Henderson

Chris is working on a chapter for an edited collection on 'Contested States and War' which is a project led by the Université Catholique de Lille, which follows on from several workshops held on the topic. The chapter is focused very much on the use of force aspects.

Prof. Amir Paz-Fuchs

Amir is currently finishing up a co-authored (with Katie Bales from Bristol) monograph on *Unfree Labour*, to be published with OUP in due course.

Amir is working on an article on privatisation of social security for the 30th anniversary of the *Journal of Social Security Law*.

PhD Success

As ever, we are proud to announce the success of our PhD students and send huge congratulations to them all!

Thomas Ebbs passed his PhD viva in December 2022, for his thesis titled 'The Use of Law in Feminist Activism: a governmentality analysis of the legal answers to problems of transactional sex'. Thomas was supervised by Dr Charlotte Skeet and Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley. The examiners were Dr Tanya Palmer and Dr Tanya Serisier (Department of Criminology at Birkbeck).



Thomas's post-viva celebrations.

Hannah Blitzer passed her PhD viva with no corrections in May 2023. Her thesis was titled 'The Neoliberal and Anthropocentric Challenges to UK Environmental Law'. Hannah was supervised by Prof. Amir Paz-Fuchs and Dr Emanuela Orlando. The Examiners were Dr Helen Dancer and Prof. Sam Adelman (University of Warwick).

LLM News

Our LLM in International Human Rights Law has had yet another successful year, with students in 2022-23 coming from, amongst others, Colombia, Bangladesh, Italy, Jordan, Nigeria, Thailand and the USA (as well as the UK of course).

Model UN Human Rights Council

In December, students participated in the Annual Model UN Human Rights Council and attempted to agree a draft text for a Resolution on the Right to a Health Environment.

Actors for Human Rights visit

On 31 October, the Ice&Fire theatre company who run 'Actors for Human Rights' delivered a session to LLM students on the subject of asylum. After an initial asylum mapping workshops, students got to watch a reading of 'Asylum monologues', delivered by both professional actors and those who have experienced the asylum system first hand.



Students participate in the asylum mapping workshop, and students listening to Actors for Human Rights (faces covered to protect the identity of the participants).

Congratulations

Our former LLM International Human Rights Students have had great success over the past year:

Dilahan Bice Kurtoğlu (2020-21) began her PhD on asylum law and socio-legal methodologies at the University of Warwick.

Jacob Charnick (part time 2019-21) has been appointed Human Rights Officer with the British Institute of Human Rights.

Skye Derrington (2020-21) was appointed Team Leader for Clarion Housing Group – Domestic Abuse Service.

To find out more, please visit [SCHRR's website](#)

Donikë Kastrati (2020-21) began work as a Legal Officer for Germin.

Claire Nilles (2020-21) worked as a Senior Fellow for JUSTICE.

Dikchya Raut (2020-21) was appointed Advocacy Lead for the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

Mahlet Abreham (2019-20) was appointed Programme Executive at the Horn of Africa Peace Project.

Hannah Blitzer (2019-20) passed her PhD viva with no corrections (see PhD successes for more information) and is now working as a Policy Officer at Wildlife and Countryside Link.

Nel Hywel (2019-20) began her work as a Youth Climate Ambassador Support Officer for Size of Wales.

Lewis Njabulo Sibanda (2019-20) started his PhD at the Open University.

Jessica Raby (2019-20) has been appointed Education and Public Engagement Coordinator of the Caring Society in Canada.

Yasir Abbas (2018-19) was appointed Head of Rule of Law and Service Delivery Unit in addition to his role as Coordinator to the Chief Minister of Gilgit Baltistan.

Godfrey Dici (2018-19) was nominated to the National Constitutional Amendment Committee of the Republic of South Sudan.

Abby Field (2018-19) is Family Reunification Supervisor and SOGIESC expert for Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid.

Alex Smith (2018-19) is Policy Advisor at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Human Rights Law Clinic

In 2022/23, two teams of students participated in the Human Rights Law Clinic, to produce 6,000 word memoranda for their clients. Memoranda will be made available on [SCHRR's website](#) in due course, subject to client permission:

Amnesty International, 'Climate change and building resilient health and social systems'. Students: Alice Bongiovanni and Isabela Gomez Martinez.

Child Rights Connect, 'Domesticating the rights of child human rights defenders: the pilot case of Moldova'. Students: Marcie Kinsella and Seyi Ugochukwu.