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The 2023/24 academic year has coincided with renewed mainstream domestic and global attention to human rights issues from the UK to Ukraine, Palestine to Sudan, Bangladesh to the European Union and beyond. The past twelve months have seen: conflict and atrocities; protest movements and the repression thereof; toxic political discourse around marginalised and minoritised communities; and developments in domestic, regional and international human rights law. As ever, Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research (SCHRR) members have responded to these and wider issues through the publication and dissemination of research in academic, specialist and non-specialist outlets, engagement with practitioners, policymakers and international organisations, and through our programme of events. The Rights Research Series continued in the now well-established blended in-person/online format and featured contributions from SCHRR members presenting works in progress in a supportive and engaged environment, as well as rapid responses to emerging issues and ongoing events, and contributions from visiting scholars and practitioners. SCHRR hosted remote visiting fellow Dr Nadiia Maksimentseva (Oles Honchar Dnipro National University and Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv) as well as guest speakers, including Prof. Haim Bresheeth-Žabner (Centre for Global Media and Communications, SOAS) who presented on his forthcoming publication, ‘In the aftermath of 7th October 2024: Jewish Identify and Genocide’, and Matthew Smith (former UK

Government advisor on rail accessibility) who presented with LLM student and UK transport and public ownership activist Emily Yates on ‘Transport, Disability Rights and the Regulatory Landscape’. As usual, PhD candidates have been integrated into the Centre’s activities, welcomed as researchers and contributing to events alongside faculty. We have also celebrated the completion of several SCHRR members’ doctoral studies. The LLM International Human Rights Law linked to SCHRR, and drawing heavily on research-led teaching by Centre members, welcomed a new cohort of students with a range of backgrounds and experience, and students on the LLM’s Human Rights Law Clinic once again produced excellent practice-oriented research for use by human rights organisations.

The whole SCHRR community can be proud of what we have achieved over the last year. We look forward to developing further contributions to interdisciplinary research and research-led teaching, engagement with human rights practice, scholarly and wider publication, dissemination and impact in 2024/25!

**Stephanie Berry, Matthew Evans and Aisling O’Sullivan**

**SCHRR Co-Directors**

## News

In the year since September 2023 SCHRR members have engaged in and been recognised for research, knowledge exchange and public engagement activities. Some of the most notable highlights follow.



### Dr Nadiia Maksimentseva virtually visits SCHRR

Dr Nadiia Maksimentseva has been a remote visiting fellow at SCHRR this year. Nadiia is an Associate Professor at the Department of Law and State Theory and Constitutional Law of Law



Dr Nadiia Maksimentseva

School of Oles Honchar Dnipro National University, Ukraine and Associate Professor at the Parliamentarism Department of Scientific Institute of Public Administration and Civil Service of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. She has been engaging virtually with faculty and students at Sussex, including contributing a work in progress presentation to the Rights Research Series and publishing a blogpost, titled

[‘Legitimacy of Elected Bodies in Ukraine during the Martial Law: Parliament vs President’](#), with the School of Law, Politics and Sociology’s research blog *LaPSe of Reason*.

### SCHRR responds to UK Supreme Court Rwanda Decision and to South Africa v Israel proceedings at the International Court of Justice

On 5 December 2023, SCHRR held a rapid response roundtable on the UK Supreme Court’s decision that the government’s plan to send asylum seekers to Rwanda to have their claims decided there is unlawful. Panellists were Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley, Dr Moira Dustin, Prof. Nuno Ferreira, Prof. Lindsay Stirton and Dr Jo Wilding.

On 1 May 2024 SCHRR held another roundtable as a response to the ongoing proceedings in the South Africa v Israel case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Using the ICJ proceedings as a jumping off point, six contributors (Prof. Chris Henderson, Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley, Dr Darcy Leigh, Dr Matthew Evans, Dr Elizabeth Craig and Dr Stephanie Berry) considered the purposes and impacts of, and the alternatives to, international courts in human rights accountability in an open discussion chaired by Prof. Tarik Kochi.

### SCHRR organises a panel at Vienna conference

SCHRR organised (with the Minority Rights Solidarity Network) a panel entitled ‘Minority Rights After the Vienna Declaration: Positive Progress or Missing in Action?’ at the conference ‘The UN World Conference on Human Rights

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

in Vienna 1993 – Strengthening Imperatives 30 Years After’, organised by the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights and held in Vienna on 27-28 September 2023.

The panel brought together academics, civil society and international organisations, including Stephanie Berry (SCHRR Co-Director, Chair), Isilay Taban (University of Brighton, associate member of SCHRR and former Sussex PhD student), David Keane (Dublin City University), Anna-Maria Bíró (Tom Lantos Institute), Corinne Lennox (Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London) and Fernand de Varennes (UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues).

### Doctoral researchers participate in PGR retreat

In July SCHRR doctoral researchers Leonard Chimanda Joseph and Juliet Ibekaku-Nwagwu both participated in and presented research at a postgraduate researcher retreat hosted by the Eastern Arc universities collaboration in Norwich, which drew participants from Essex, Sussex, and East Anglia.

### Reading groups convened by SCHRR members

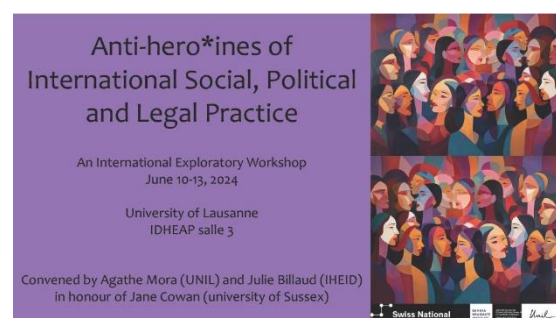
Elizabeth Craig has been running a Decolonising Minority Rights reading group over the summer months – so far the groups have read works by Edward Said, Partha Chatterjee, Frantz Fanon and Maria Todorova. They will be focusing on Walter Dignolo’s, *The Politics of Decolonial Investigations* and Foluke Adebisi’s *Decolonisation and Legal Knowledge* in Autumn 2024.

Matthew Evans has continued to convene an informal reading group on transitional

justice and related areas, with online meetings having taken place on an ad hoc basis throughout the year.

### Dr Bal Sokhi-Bulley visits the University of Lausanne

Bal was an invited speaker at the event ‘Anti-hero\*ines of International Social, Political and Legal Practice: An International Exploratory Workshop’ held 10-13 June 2024.



‘Anti-hero\*ines of International Social, Political and Legal Practice’ poster

### Dr Jo Wilding on the BBC

Jo has been regularly interviewed on TV and radio, including commenting on the migration elements of the King’s Speech for BBC TV news in July.

### Dr Darcy Leigh interviewed

In March SCHRR member Dr Darcy Leigh was interviewed for [E-International Relations](#). Darcy followed this up with a [blogpost](#) based on the interview published by the School of Law, Politics and Sociology’s research blog *LaPSe of Reason*.

### Queer Judgments Project

Outputs from the [Queer Judgments Project](#) coordinated by Prof. Nuno Ferreira and Dr Marica Moscati at Sussex with Dr Sen Raj (Manchester Metropolitan University)

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



have begun to be published. An edited collection is forthcoming with Counterpress and the Socio-Legal Studies Association's (SLSA's) 2024 annual conference at the University of Portsmouth included a roundtable on the Project (chaired by Nuno). Nuno also presented 'Queering judgments: Re-writing the X, Y and Z judgment of the Court of Justice of the EU' at [The Migration Conference 2024](#) at Universidad Iberoamericana (with Carmelo Danisi, honorary research fellow at SCHRR).

### Minority Rights Solidarity Network

The Minority Rights Solidarity Network (MRSN) continues to be associated with SCHRR, with both Stephanie Berry and Elizabeth Craig being members of the steering committee and SCHRR hosting the Network's website ([here](#)).

In addition to co-organisation of a panel on Minority Rights Reform at the "UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna 1993 – Strengthening Imperatives 30 Years After" held in Vienna from Wednesday, 27, to Friday, 29 September 2023, MRSN held its first public lecture on 14 November 2023 in conjunction with the School of Advanced Study, University of London. Prof. Mohammad Shahabuddin from the University of Birmingham presented his recently published paper on 'Decolonising Minority Rights'. The event was hosted by Corinne Lennox, with Farah Mihlar also participating as a discussant. A recording of [this event](#) is now available.

The MRSN also co-organised a side-event with the Tom Lantos Institute on 'The Role of the UN Forum on Minority Issues as a Tool for Cohesive Societies' at the [16<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Forum on Minority Issues in December 2023](#).

## Engagement with Human Rights Bodies, Government and NGOs

Dr **Jo Wilding** presented a seminar for the Ministry of Justice data team on her research, entitled '[Data Maps and Data](#)



[Gaps](#)'. Jo has also co-written a briefing for the new Home Office team on fixing the asylum system and written a policy options paper for the then-shadow Ministry of Justice team. She was one of the experts in the Review of Civil Legal Aid international comparators workstream and was interviewed in the economics workstream as well.

Jo was also interviewed for the National Audit Office report on [Government's management of legal aid](#), which cited her research in its report. Her written evidence was also cited in the Public Accounts Committee's corresponding review of [Value for Money from Legal Aid](#). Relatedly, Jo is chairing a Working Group with the charity Justice looking at the value of legal aid in Windrush Compensation Scheme cases.

Along with other Sussex academics, Sanctuary on Sea and Brighton and Hove City Council, Jo is also leading a new project looking at the current state of migrant and refugee integration in Brighton and Hove, called Towards a Migrant Integration Strategy. The report will be launched in October 2023.

Dr **Marianna Iliadou** was invited to present in the Italian Parliament in April to talk about surrogacy regulation in the UK and Greece at the event 'Famiglie e diritti universali. Libertà e autodeterminazione

nei percorsi di gravidanza per altre e altri' organised by the Associazione Luca Coscioni per la libertà di ricerca scientifica (APS).

Dr **Stephanie Berry** attended the [Sixteenth session of the Forum on Minority Issues](#) on the topic of 'Minorities and Cohesive Societies: Equality, Social Inclusion, and Socio-Economic Participation', held at the UN headquarters in Geneva, from 30 November 2023 to 1 December 2023.

Steph also chaired and was a panellist on a side event during the Forum organised by the Minority Rights Solidarity Network and the Tom Lantos Institute entitled 'The Role of the UN Forum on Minority Issues as a Tool for Cohesive Societies' on 30 November 2023.

Dr **Elizabeth Craig** attended an invitation only workshop on 'Decolonising Minority Rights' facilitated by Prof. Mohammad Shahabuddin and hosted by the Tom Lantos Institute in Budapest in July 2024.



Elizabeth Craig in Budapest

Elizabeth has also had recent discussions with the Ulster-Scots Agency about the legal and political implications of recognition of Ulster-Scots as a national minority in 2022 and presented a paper on this at the IPSA Politics and Ethnicity Colloquium held in Moldova in May 2024.

Dr **Stephanie Berry** has been appointed as a member of the advisory board of the MiREL (Migration and Religion in International Law) project, funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (PI: Prof. Giuseppe Pascale, Co-I: Carmelo Danisi), and involves scholars from the Universities of Trieste, Bologna, La Sapienza, and Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli (LUISS).

**Juliet Ibekaku-Nwagwu** has been nominated to chair the Commonwealth Lawyers Association's Anti-Corruption Sub-Committee and has been nominated as a member of the [Nigerian Bar Association Anti-Money Laundering Committee](#). Juliet also published the [Guideline for Civil Society Organizations in the Management and Monitoring of Proceeds of Crime](#) (CLEEN Foundation and African Center for Governance, Asset Recovery and Sustainable Development) and (as editor) the [Compendium on Lessons Learned and Best Practices from Nigeria's Anti-Corruption Efforts: 2015 to 2023](#) (MacArthur Foundation and African Center for Governance, Asset Recovery and Sustainable Development).

## SCHRR Events

SCHRR is committed to fostering an inclusive research cultural space for human rights researchers and our Rights Research Series is a critical dimension in achieving this. In the 2023/24 academic year we have hosted research cafes, rapid response roundtables and work in progress seminars

featuring Sussex faculty and doctoral researchers as well as external speakers from academia and human rights practice as part of our public engagement. Some highlights include the following events.

On **15 November 2023**, **Marianna Iiadou** presented ‘Surrogacy Before the Strasbourg Court: A Blend of Genetic Obsession, Gender Discrimination and Vague Application of the Child’s Best Interests’.

On **22 November 2023**, **Jo Wilding** presented ‘Conceptualising Justice Chauvinism’.

**Anne-Mai Flyvholm** (University of Copenhagen and visiting doctoral researcher at Sussex) presented ‘Prejudice-based trust violations: understanding the wider impacts hate crime’ on **27 November 2023**.

Moving into the second semester, **6 March 2024** saw Prof **Haim Bresheeth-Zabner** (Centre for Global Media and Communications, SOAS) present on his forthcoming publication, ‘In the aftermath of 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024: Jewish Identify and Genocide’. Dr **Yaar Dagan** (Lecturer in Law, Bournemouth and former SCHRR Visiting PhD Researcher) acted as discussant and Prof. **Amir Paz-Fuchs** (Head of Sussex Law School) acted as chair.

PhD candidate **Ioannis Valiakos** presented his work-in-progress, ‘Generate and Engage: The Use of Lethal and AI-Enabled Autonomous Weapon Systems in Armed Conflict’ (prior to his PhD viva) on **8 March 2024**.

SCHRR’s work in progress seminar on **13 March 2024** featured three presenters: Dr **Nadiia Maksimentseva** (Faculty of Law, Oles Honchar Dnipro National University, Ukraine and SCHRR’s Visiting Research Fellow) presented on her work-

in-progress, ‘The Derogation of Rights and Freedoms in Ukraine during the Martial Law’, and **Emily Yates** (LLM student and UK Transport and public ownership activist) presented with **Matthew Smith** (former UK Government advisor on rail accessibility) on their activism in relation to ‘Transport, Disability Rights and the Regulatory Landscape’, with Dr **Liana Japaridze** (Sussex Law School) as discussant.

On **20 March 2024**, **Ihab Maharmeh** (SCHRR member and PhD candidate in Politics) presented his work-in-progress on ‘Palestinian Workers’ Resistance in the Age of Neoliberal Settler Colonialism’.

## Other Events

In March 2024 Prof. **Nuno Ferreira** was an invited presenter at a Half Day Symposium on the Rwanda Bill and Policy at the School of Law, Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU).

In June 2024 Nuno co-organised and appeared as a panel member at a University of Sussex Summer of Research event on ‘Sexuality, gender and migration’.

Nuno also appeared at the Socio-Legal Studies Association’s (SLSA’s) 2024 annual conference at the University of Portsmouth as an invited presenter on a roundtable on the Rwanda Bill and as co-chair and presenter on a roundtable on the Queer Judgments Project.

In June 2024 Nuno also presented twice at the Migration Conference 2024 at Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City. His papers were ‘Escaping homophobia and transphobia in Iran: Legal experiences of seeking protection in Turkey, the UK and Canada’ and (with Carmelo Danisi) ‘Queering judgments: Re-writing the X, Y

and Z judgment of the Court of Justice of the EU’.

**Elizabeth Craig** and **Charlotte Skeet** both attended the International Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Conference ‘The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 75: Rethinking and Constructing its Future Together’ held at Ghent University in December 2023. Charlotte presented a paper on implicit bias at the European Court of Human Rights, and Elizabeth presented a paper entitled ‘Minority Rights and the Legacy Problem’.

**Matthew Evans** organised, chaired and presented (remotely) on the panel ‘Diversifying Epistemologies and Methodologies in, against, and beyond Transitional Justice’ at the Justice Visions International Conference ‘Victims & Transitional Justice: Participation. Mobilisation. Resistance’ held in March 2024 at Sint-Pieters Abbey, Ghent and online. Other panellists were Claire Wright (Queen's University Belfast), Simon Robins (Centre for Applied Human Rights, University of York), Ram Kumar Bhandari

(Centre for Law and Transformative Change), Briony Jones (University of Warwick) and Nisan Alici (Queen's University Belfast).

In June 2024 **Stephanie Berry** participated in and chaired a session at the DIVERCITY @ City Law School Workshop 2024 on ‘Improving participation of Minority Stakeholders before the UN: A Collaborative Knowledge Exchange Approach’ held at City, University of London.

**Jo Wilding** presented at the Legal Professions Working Group launch event in Leeds in December 2023 and the Oñati (Spain) meeting of the Legal Professions Working Group in June 2024.

**Juliet Ibekaku-Nwagwu** presented at two webinars organised by the UK Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) and investigative journalists from Nigeria, as well as another organised by the Global South Dialogue on Economic Crime (GSDEC) based at the University of Warwick.



## Books, Chapters and Articles

Baldi, Giorgia (2024) '[From Text to Meaning: Unpacking the Semiotics of Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights](#)'. *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law – Revue internationale de Sémiotique juridique* 37, 1285-1308.

Bowsher, Josh (forthcoming) '[After truth, after shame...after information politics? Rethinking the epistemologies of human rights in the digital-authoritarian conjuncture](#)'. *International Journal of Human Rights*.

Bowsher, Josh (forthcoming) '[Rebel greed and postcolonial governance: neoliberal accountings of the past within transitional justice processes in Sierra Leone](#)'. *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development*.

Bu, Qingxiu (2024) '[Behind the Huawei sanction: national security, ideological prejudices, or something else?](#)'. *International Cybersecurity Law Review* 5, 263-300.

Coleman, Lara Montesinos (2024) *Struggles for the Human: Violent Legality and the Politics of Rights*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Craig, Elizabeth (2024) '[Twenty-Five Years of Minority Rights Monitoring in Ukraine](#)'. *European Yearbook on Minority Issues* 21.

Dancer, Helen, Bonnie Holligan and Helena Howe (eds) (2024) *UK Earth Law Judgments: Reimagining Law for People and Planet*. Oxford: Hart.

Dustin, Moira and Kate Malleson (forthcoming) '[Separate But Equal: Is Segregated Schooling \(Still\) Good for Girls?](#)'. *Feminist Legal Studies*.

Edmunds, Aneira J (2023) *Human Rights, Security Politics and Embodiment*. London: Anthem Press.

Ferreira, Nuno (2023) '[Better Late Than Never? SOGI Asylum Claims and “Late Disclosure” Through a Foucauldian Lens](#)'. *UCLA Journal of International Law and Foreign Affairs* 21(1), 17-56.

Ferreira, Nuno, Maria Moscati and Senthoran Raj (eds) (forthcoming) *Queer Judgments*. Oxford: Counterpress.

Ferreira, Nuno and Anna Verges Bausili (2024) '[Adopting a rights lens to children’s training in football academies](#)'. *Amicus Curiae* 2, 5(2), 315-332.

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.

Guntrip, Edward (2024) *Counterclaims in Investment Arbitration: Holding Foreign Investors Accountable for Violations of International Law*. Leiden: Brill.

Iliadou, Marianna (2024) '[International Surrogacy and Stateless Children: Article 7 UNCRC and the Harmful Effects of Statelessness](#)'. *Amicus Curiae* 2, 5(3), 474-492.



Karp, David (forthcoming) '[A post-Hegelian theory of human rights: beyond recognition and the state](#)'. *European Journal of International Relations*.

Katsaroumpas, Ioannis (2024) '[Authoritarian liquid transgressions: the case of P&O Ferries](#)'. *Journal of Law and Society* 51(2), 263-289.

Katsaroumpas, Ioannis (2023) '[United Kingdom: Labour Law and Technological Authoritarianism at Work: Past, Present, and Future](#)'. In Marc De Vos, Gordon Anderson and Evert Verhulp (eds) *The Cambridge Handbook of Technological Disruption in Labour and Employment Law*. Cambridge Law Handbooks. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Keall, Ashleigh (2024) '[The “stiff-necked parson” and the “stiff-necked” state: religious freedom and the protection of State power and authority](#)'. In Howard Kislowicz, Richard J Moon and Kerri Anne Froc (eds) *Canada's Surprising Constitution: Unexpected Interpretations of the Constitution Act, 1982*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

Maharmeh, Ihab (2023) '[Technocracy in Palestine](#)'. In Ali Farazmand (ed.) *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance*. Cham: Springer.

Manzotti, Cecilia (2023) '[Nationality and the Right to Enter: Assessing the Impact of Refusal of Entry for the Purpose of Statelessness Determination](#)'. *Statelessness & Citizenship Review* 5(2), 136-65.

Moscato, Maria Federica (ed.) (2024) [Special Section – Children's Rights: Contemporary Issues in Law and Society \(Part 2\)](#). *Amicus Curiae* 2, 5(3).

Moscato, Maria Federica (ed.) (2024) [Special Section – Children's Rights: Contemporary Issues in Law and Society \(Part 1\)](#). *Amicus Curiae* 2, 5(2).

Odyseos, Louiza (forthcoming) '[After Rights, after Man? Sylvia Wynter, Sociopoetic Struggle and the “Undared Shape”](#)'. *International Journal of Human Rights*.

Peck, Mika R et al. (2024) '[The conflict between Rights of Nature and mining in Ecuador: Implications of the Los Cedros Cloud Forest case for biodiversity conservation](#)'. *People and Nature* 6 (3), 1096-1115.

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

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

Velluti, Samantha (forthcoming) '[Labour standards in global garment supply chains and the proposed EU corporate sustainability due diligence directive](#)'. *European Labour Law Journal*.

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 (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.

## Blogs

Edmunds, Aneira J (2023) [‘France’s ban on the abaya – the perfect distraction?’](#). *EUROPP – European Politics and Policy*, 2 October.

Henderson, Christian (2024) [‘The ICJ, Provisional Measures, and the Right of Self-defence: The Unspoken Relevance of jus cogens?’](#). *Opinio Juris*, 29 February.

Henderson, Christian (2024) [‘With airstrikes on Houthi rebels, are the US and UK playing fast and loose with international law?’](#). *The Conversation*, 7 February.

Iliadou, Marianna (2023) [‘Surrogacy and the Workplace: Maternity, Paternity, and Parental Leave in the European Union’](#). *Bill of Health*, 12 September.

Joseph, Leonard Chimanda (2024) [“‘You know what you want but you don’t know how to get it”: Exploring the essence of a theoretical framework in legal research’](#). *LaPSe of Reason: Blogging from the School of Law, Politics and Sociology at the University of Sussex*, 11 January.

Leigh, Darcy (2024) [‘Uncivil Enemies: The Risks and Imperatives of Free Speech Politics’](#). *LaPSe of Reason: Blogging from the School of Law, Politics and Sociology at the University of Sussex*, 27 March.

Leigh, Darcy and Bal Sokhi-Bulley (2024) [‘Workers Against Imperialism: Resistance in Palestine, Britain and Beyond’](#). *Critical Legal Thinking*, 22 April.

Maharmeh, Ihab (2024) [‘Palestinian Workers’ Resistance in the Age of Neoliberal Settler Colonialism’](#). *Critical Legal Thinking*, 23 April.

Ní Drisceoil, Verona (2024) [‘Developing authentic assessment for learning’](#). *Learning Matters*, 10 January.

Scuzzarello, Sarah, Nuno Ferreira and Moira Dustin (2024) [‘Bridging Research and Reality: A Glimpse into the Summer of Research Event on Gender, Sexuality, and Migration’](#). *Sussex Centre for Migration Research Blog*, 19 June.

Shariati, Ahmad Ali (2024) [‘Gender Persecution and Gender Apartheid in Afghanistan: Seeking the Appropriate Legal Basis for International Accountability’](#). *EJIL: Talk!*, 10 April.

Shariati, Ahmad Ali (2024) [‘Grappling With Taliban Tyranny From Afar: Exiled Voices at the British Parliament Discuss Afghanistan’s Path Forward’](#). *Jurist*, 22 January.

Sokhi-Bulley, Bal (2024) [‘Collective Well-Being as Resistance: Garment Workers against Racial Capitalism’](#). *Critical Legal Thinking*, 25 April.

## PhD Success

As ever, we are proud of our doctoral researchers and we are happy to announce the following successful thesis defences – huge congratulations to them all!



Moheb (right) with internal examiner John Jupp

**Moheb Mudessir** passed his viva on 26 January 2024. His thesis was titled ‘The Accommodation of Turkic Peoples in Politics and Public Life in Afghanistan: A Rights Based Approach’. Moheb was supervised by Dr Stephanie Berry, Dr Elizabeth Craig and Dr Sabrina Gilani. Examiners were Dr Corinne Lennox (Institute of Commonwealth Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London) and Dr John Jupp (Sussex Law School).

**Ioannis Valiakos** passed his viva on 12 March 2024. His thesis is titled ‘Generate and Engage: The Autonomisation of the Critical Targeting Functions of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems Through the Lens of International Humanitarian and International Criminal Law’ The external examiner was David Turns (Senior Lecturer at the Swedish Defence University), and the internal examiner was Dr Andres Guadamuz. Ioannis’s supervisors were Prof. Chris Henderson, Dr Michael Kearney and Paul Eden.

**Hala Mohamed Adel Khalaf Abdelgawad** passed her doctoral viva unconditionally on 24 April 2024. Her doctoral thesis is titled ‘Gendered Judgeship: The Challenge of Female Judicial Representation in Egypt’. Hala was supervised by Dr Aneira Edmunds and Prof. Richard Vogler. The external examiner was Dr Shaimaa Abdelkarim from the University of Birmingham, the internal examiner was Dr Charlotte Skeet and Prof. Nuno Ferreira chaired the viva.

## LLM News

Our LLM in International Human Rights Law has had yet another successful year, with students in 2023/24 coming from all over the world, including Georgia, Bangladesh, Somalia, Saudi Arabia – and of course the UK.

### **Model UN Human Rights Council**

In December, students participated in the Annual Model UN Human Rights Council.

## Human Rights Law Clinic

In 2023/24, four 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:

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, 'An Analysis of Compliance to the Freedom of Religion and Belief within the Caucuses and the Identification of Trends Amongst Selected OSCE Members Regarding Adherence to International Standards'. Students: Henry Curties and Nana Ghvaladze.

Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid, 'The Right to Identity: A memorandum investigating the existence of a right to identity'. Students: Meredith Armstrong and Sumaya Rahaman.

Lawyers for Justice in Libya, 'Violations of Human Rights in light of the Derna Natural Disaster'. Students: Abdullah Alshahrani, Shivani Patel and Lucimar Prata Dos Santos.

Child Rights Connect, 'Access to Justice and Remedies for Children'. Students: Ophelia Geary, Bilan Hirsi and Margaret Mwape.