

International Women's Month

at the Human Rights Law Centre

Celebrating the remarkable women within our HRLC community



Hemi's research focuses on how judicial procedure within international courts and tribunals affects the manner in which those institutions pursue 'international justice'.

Currently she is working on projects that explore the

nature of judicial authority in international law; in particular how that authority is established and reproduced through visual and material performance and ritual.

Dr. Hemi Mistry

Associate Professor in Law, University of Nottingham



Scarlett's work focuses on international responsibility & accountability of non-state actors. She has explored this in relation to international organisations, the European Union, & non-State humanitarian actors. She has a

particular interest in the growth of power & actions of actors beyond the state & how this can be understood & ensure consequences for wrongs.

Dr Scarlett McArdle

Assistant Professor in Law, University of Nottingham



Andrea researches on demography and the law, and her doctoral dissertation looked at the practice of demographic engineering as a violation of human rights and international law.

Andrea is also interested in displacement related to climate change and environmental disasters.

Andrea Pelliconi





Natalie's research explores the use of law to challenge and resist harmful State policies.

She has a particular interest in the policies adopted by States towards people seeking asylum, and the

legal and expressive power of international criminal law to resist State crime.

Dr. Natalie Hodson

Assistant Professor in Law, University of Nottingham



Magdalena is a doctoral candidate at the University of Aberdeen & a Teaching Associate in Nottingham, with her core research focused on Citizenship by Investment (CBI) Schemes & Investment Migration in the Context of the EU Legal Order as well

as looking at broader human rights and socio-political implications of the 'passport sale'.

Magdalena Zabrocka



Shree works at the intersection of constitutional law and political philosophy. Her current research uses Hannah Arendt's writings to think about the role of citizens' everyday acts and judgments in establishing and maintaining constitutional democracies.

She is a member of an OSUN (Open Society University Network) working group on issues concerning modern democracies.

Shree Agnihotri





Philippa's expertise is in punishment, specifically: prison suicide, investigating deaths in criminal justice detention, regulating criminal justice detention, the penal voluntary sector, charitable involvement in (criminal) justice, actor-network theory and document analysis.

She holds a £1.1m UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship and a £1.3m ERC Starting Grant.

Prof Philippa Tomczak

Prof. of Criminology & Criminal Justice University of Nottingham



Sarah's research focuses on disability rights and citizenship from sociological, legal and policy perspectives.

With a particular focus on China, she explores the

way dominant discourses of disability become embedded in social, legal and political structures creating an 'emotional economy of

Prof Sarah Dauncey

Prof. of Chinese Society & Disability University of Nottingham

para-citizenship'.



Mariana's research focuses on transparency, access to information and public participation in national and regional courts.

Drawing from a comparative perspective, she

explores the way these may influence the decision-making process and the legitimacy of the courts.

Dr Mariana Kato



Prof. La Chimia has published extensively in the areas of aid effectiveness, food security, development aid procurement, and procurement by multilateral and bilateral aid donors. She has acted as an expert advisor in the field of procurement for several national and international organizations.

More recently, she has conducted research on emergency procurement and procurement reforms in Italy.

Prof Annamaria La Chimia

Prof. of Law and Development, University of Nottingham



Sara's research explores how slavery is and should be interpreted in refugee status determination procedures in Europe, using Eritrean asylum applications as a case study. Through this unique example, Sara studies slavery from legal-doctrinal

slavery from legal-doctrinal, comparative, and sociolegal angles, providing an integrated picture of this complex phenomenon.

Dr. Sara Arapiles



Klara's work primarily looks at novel issues that arise when international rules regulate collective nonstate entities such as companies, armed groups and political movements. Her research includes both basic theoretical & empirical research, & policy-oriented work.

She has advised States & private parties on a wide range of public international law & international dispute settlement matters.

Dr Klara Polackova Van der Ploeg

Assistant Professor in Law, University of Nottingham



Zinhle's thesis explores the status of children born of war (CBOW) within the international children's rights law framework.

Using Northern Uganda as a case study, it specifically examines whether the UNCRC rights of CBOW are effectively implemented at the domestic level through an exploration

of their experiences.

Zinhle Koza

PhD Student in Law, University of Nottingham



As the School of Law's Athena Swan lead, Qianlan is interested in researching competition law-making process and the legitimacy of the courts.

She has implemented research projects funded by the British Academy, and the University of Nottingham ESRC Impact Acceleration Award.

Dr Qianlan Wu

Associate Professor in Law, University of Nottingham





Zinat's research interests are in public international law, international human rights law & IHL.

Most recently, she worked on a 2-year project on life imprisonment & human rights. The project's latest policy briefing on informal life sentences, co-produced with Penal Reform International, was

published in March 2024.

Zinat oversees the HRLC's Refugee Clinic, Scholars at Risk student advocacy programme, & other HRLC internships.

Zinat Jimada

Research and Projects Assistant University of Nottingham



Olympia's research focuses on complementarity, cooperation & conflict-related sexual and genderbased violence. She has undertaken numerous capacity-building missions, including in post-conflict situations (such as Colombia, the DRC & Uganda).

Olympia created the Cooperation & Judicial Assistance Database & is responsible for the National Implementing Legislation Database of the ICC Legal Tools Project.

Prof Olympia Bekou

Prof. of Public International Law University of Nottingham



Sara collaborates with the HRLC's ICJ unit on projects aimed at empowering women survivors and leaders of grassroots organisations in Uganda to foster conflict resolution & access to justice for sexual & gender-based crimes.

Sara's research explores the intersection between conflict-related sexual violence & terrorism, with a focus on the challenges of accountability.

Sara Ciucci

PhD Student in Law, University of Nottingham





Aoife has acted as an expert advisor to a wide range of international & national organisations working on human rights issues, including numerous UN Special Procedures, UN treaty bodies, multiple NHRIs & NGOs. She is President of the Council of Europe's European Committee of Social Rights.

She has published extensively in the areas of human rights & constitutional law, particularly in relation to children's rights & economic & social rights

Prof Aoife Nolan

Prof. of International Human Rights Law University of Nottingham



Mando's research focuses on the intersection between human rights law & technology, including digital human rights, & human rights-centred design for cybersecurity & AI systems.

Mando also systematically writes on comparative human rights law bringing together the case law of the three regional courts of human rights regarding substantive & procedural issues.

Dr Mando Rachovitsa

Associate Professor in Law University of Nottingham



Promoting and protecting human rights & strengthening and establishing the rule of law worldwide.

www.nottingham.ac.uk/hrlc