# Table of Contents

Director’s Statement .......................... 1  
This is RWI ................................... 3  
RWI Around the World ......................... 5  
Working with the Next Generation of Cambodian Decision-Makers 7  
Lund Human Rights Research Hub Launched 9  
Increasing Exchange Between Arab Judicial Systems 11  
Inaugural Lund Human Rights Film Festival 13  
New Cooperation Programme in Zimbabwe 15  
Meet the Raoul Wallenberg Visiting Chair 17  
Publication Highlights in 2016 ............... 19  
Publications in 2016 .......................... 21  
A National Policy Platform for Human Rights Cities 25
Director’s Statement

Being the director of a global institution means I can be celebrating achievements in Amman, Jordan one week and speaking to key partners in Yangon, Myanmar the next.

However, looking back over 2016, one of the days that sticks out for me most, is when I attended an event a bit closer to home in Malmö, Sweden.

This city faces a number of major challenges when it comes to inclusion and integration, partly due to the number of refugees settling in the city in recent years.

I was invited to an event there that the city had planned on March 21 to commemorate the UN’s International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

That day, I was extremely impressed with the people I met and the things I heard. These are dedicated people working to create an open and inclusive city for everyone, including Jews, Muslims, people with an Afro-Swedish background and refugees coming from places like Syria and Afghanistan.

The work being done in Malmö is reflective of the work taking place in many of the cities and regions throughout Sweden that I’ve had the pleasure to learn more about through our cooperation with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR). Together with SALAR, we’ve done groundbreaking work to set out criteria for what it means to be a human rights city.

2016 has reminded me that it’s easy to get caught up in trying to improve human rights far away, while forgetting that there is still so much to be done closer to home.

Our mission to contribute to a wider understanding of, and respect for, human rights and international humanitarian law is not restrained by borders. The work needs to happen everywhere. We owe it to the next generations.

In the last 25 years, the human rights developments in the world have largely moved in a positive direction. But today we are seeing civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights increasingly coming under pressure.

Far too many lack equal protection before the law and suffer from entrenched discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Migrants and refugees continue to face serious obstacles in accessing safety and basic human rights. Hate crime is on the rise.

Growing inequality, locally and globally, is reason for a renewed focus on economic, social and cultural rights in order to take the call to leave no one behind from the UN Sustainable Development Goals seriously. Climate change is making life more difficult for all, especially the most vulnerable.

At the same time, throughout the world, justice sector institutions are being discredited and press freedom is declining. These dynamics are not unique to one country. Through our global presence, we are seeing these worrying trends.

Meanwhile, the institutions that were built up with great success after World War II to act as buffers against new conflicts and to promote and protect human rights are being eroded. Many have begun to doubt the legitimacy of these institutions, including the UN, the EU, and national democratic institutions.

It’s a lot to cope with at the same time, but there’s a real risk that if these developments are not properly addressed that the generation coming after us, for the first time in 50 years, might be facing a world with weaker human rights protection and democratic institutions.

Our Institute was founded in 1984. Since then we have continued to expand, redefine and reinvent our approach to bring about just and inclusive societies with the effective realisation of human rights for all.

New challenges means actors like us must constantly reconfigure ourselves to be as effective and relevant as possible.

In 2015, based on our expertise, we identified four focus areas to strengthen our efforts in the areas of human rights that we think the world needs most and that we can best deliver on. In 2016, we reorganised the Institute to best leverage these new focus areas: People on the Move, Inclusive Societies, Fair and Efficient Justice, and Economic Globalisation and Human Rights.

Thanks to generous funding and strong relationships with our partners around the world, we are proud of the achievements made during an extremely challenging year in 2016.

However, going forward there is so much more to be done. Our vision is to bring about just and inclusive societies with effective realisation of human rights for all. This is not something that happens overnight. The Raoul Wallenberg Institute has over 30 years of experience working for positive human rights change. We constantly strive to remain an agile and relevant institution that works in close partnerships with others to continue the work.
Who we are

We were established in 1984 at Lund University, one of the world’s top 100 rated universities. We are an independent academic institution that has offices, programmes and convening power covering more than 40 countries.

We combine evidence-based human rights research with direct engagement to bring about human rights change. As a network-based organisation, we work through strong partnerships.

Today, we are around 60 people located in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Jakarta, Lund, Nairobi, Phnom Penh and Stockholm.

What we do

We generate and disseminate research building on innovative methods and empirical data from the countries in which we work.

We offer and develop human rights education together with universities, governments and national human rights institutions.

We work in a systematic manner in direct partnership with institutions and organisations to develop capacity to improve the practical application of human rights.

We bring together policy-makers, experts and other human rights professionals to engage in solution-oriented dialogue to advance human rights.

Mission

To contribute to a wider understanding of, and respect for, human rights and international humanitarian law.

Vision

Just and inclusive societies with the effective realisation of human rights for all.

Focus

People on the Move
Inclusive Societies
Fair and Efficient Justice
Economic Globalisation and Human Rights

32

We have advanced the field of human rights and humanitarian law for over 32 years.
Throughout the year, staff from the Institute delivered speeches and participated in a wide array of conferences, seminars, symposiums and other events around the world. These activities help the Institute expand its network, remain at the forefront in the field, and build awareness about its work within its four thematic areas: People on the Move, Fair and Efficient Justice, Inclusive Societies and Economic Globalisation and Human Rights.

More conferences, seminars and symposiums

► Annual Conference of the Association of Human Rights Institutes (AHRI), Utrecht, Netherlands, 1-3 September. With the Institute’s proactive contribution, the Utrecht Declaration on Academic Freedom was adopted in support of academics at risk across the globe.

► European Society of International Law (ESIL) 12th Annual Conference in Riga, Estonia, 8-10 September. RWI presented a paper titled “Exploitation of natural resources and protection of communal property over indigenous peoples’ traditional lands and territories. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights’ safeguards.”

► Human Rights Education at Universities: Exploring Models of Human Rights Degree Programmes in Asia in Seoul, South Korea, 23 September. RWI spoke about its support of the Master Programme in International Human Rights Law at Lund University and Pansassastra University of Cambodia.

► 18th Annual Conference of the International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA) in Budapest, Hungary, 23-28 October. RWI delivered a presentation on human rights and good corrections together with the Kenyan Prison Service (KPS) and accepted the ICPA Correctional Excellence Award for Management and Staff Training jointly with KPS.

► 2016 UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, 14-16 November. RWI presented a speech titled “Leadership and Leverage: Embedding human rights in the rules and relationships that drive the global economy.”

► EU Institutional Twinning Project among Tunisia, Spain, France and Italy in Tunisia, 11 February. The project intends to conduct a comprehensive reform in the judicial sector in Tunisia at different levels.

► The East African Community (EAC) Annual Secretary General’s Forum in Tanzania, 3-4 March. The forum provided an opportunity to widen and deepen the EAC integration process especially in the area of good governance and constitutionalism.

► 25th Session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Vienna, Austria, 23-27 May. RWI contributed to a workshop on “Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations: international and national responses.”

► The Asia-Pacific Council for Juvenile Justice Subcommittee for ASEAN Member States, 15-17 June and the first ASEAN Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, 10-11 November, in Bangkok, Thailand. RWI presented its regional study on juvenile justice “A measure of last resort?”

Highlighted events

Speeches were delivered at many universities, including

► Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, US
► Columbia Law school, New York, US
► Oxford University, Oxford, UK
► Leuven University, Leuven, Belgium
► University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
► Several universities in Istanbul, Turkey
► University of Milano, Milano, Italy
► Peking University, Beijing, China
Working with the Next Generation of Cambodian Decision-Makers

Only three years after the Institute’s five-year programme in Cambodia started, the results are quite remarkable.

“When we did our analysis in 2012 about how we could add value in Cambodia we realised that, with our background in working with human rights education and research, by focusing on the next generation of decision makers through support to the academic and justice sector we could really make an impact that could be sustainable for years to come,” says Andreas Ljungholm, Director of the Cambodia Office.

The establishment of a Master Programme in International Human Rights Law in cooperation with Pannasastra University of Cambodia

The establishment of the Centre for the Studies of Humanitarian Law, which is an academic research centre, and first of its kind, with full-time researchers and a specialised library at the Royal University of Law and Economics in Phnom Penh

The development and introduction of compulsory and credited human rights courses into the standard curriculum for all prosecutor, judge and court clerk students at the Royal Academy of Judicial Professions

The development and introduction of compulsory and credited human rights courses into the standard curriculum for all lawyer students at the Lawyer’s Training Centre

Results since 2013

- Increased opportunities for female students from disadvantaged backgrounds to study law through the provision of eight scholarships per year combined with monthly human rights seminars
- Increased number of academic human rights research products produced, published and presented (nationally and internationally) by Cambodian academics through an annual tailor-made research support initiative
- Two years of studies at the Master Programme in International Human Rights Law have brought me more in-depth knowledge about regional and international instruments on human rights as well as legal analysis and critical thinking. It will sharpen and strengthen my future career in the human rights field.”
  
  Houn Phorn, student at the PUC Human Rights Master Programme.

“Highly Relevant in Cambodia”

An external evaluation of the programme at the end of 2016 confirmed the above achievements and considered the programme to have been highly effective. The report also concluded that the Institute “has managed to find a unique space in an otherwise overcrowded NGO environment.”

The report moreover found that the Institute’s added value “clearly lies in its experience and expertise in supporting academic institutions on human rights and humanitarian law, as well as in its non-monitoring mandate and ability to navigate highly complex political environments.”

In addition, the report highlighted how “the programme...consistently considered ways to include gender perspectives and women’s rights in its interventions.”

The overall goal is to strengthen the environment for human rights promotion and protection in Cambodia.

This includes strengthening:

- institutional capacities of selected academic institutions to develop and deliver high-quality human rights education and research as well as providing an academic platform for human rights debates and dialogue
- the capacity of strategically selected government institutions to fulfil their obligations in accordance with international human rights standards

The programme works in an integrated manner with human rights education and research directly engaging with partners on the ground. It includes activities relating to all the Institute’s thematic focus areas.

The programme is financially supported by Swedish Development Cooperation.

“The scholarship is truly a life-changing opportunity for us because RWI has empowered us, as female students, to fight against the age-old concept that women should not pursue higher education.”

Scholarship recipients Sreng Thida, Yi Muy Leng, and Chea Sokuntheany who in 2016 won the national round of an international debate competition on the SDGs.
Lund Human Rights Research Hub Launched


Jonas Hafström, chairman of the board of Lund University, and Morten Kjaerum, the director of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, both spoke at the launch event in the Main University Building on Lund University’s campus.

“Our goal is that the Lund Human Rights Research Hub is a driver in developing new and more interdisciplinary research and education to meet the most pressing human rights challenges we face,” said Hafström.

The hub brings together over 60 researchers from Lund University and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and reaches across a wide number of disciplines, from the Faculty of Medicine to the Center for East and South-East Asian Studies. The hub serves to showcase the wide range of human rights expertise at Lund University and RWI and to stimulate increased collaboration and multi-disciplinary research and education.

“The hub will be one of Europe’s largest interdisciplinary human rights research environments, and it will put Lund and Sweden on the map as a key player in the field of human rights,” said Kjaerum.

At the launch on December 8, Anne Orford, the Raoul Wallenberg Visiting Chair of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, delivered the keynote address on critical thinking and human rights.

Following the keynote, seven researchers presented five-minute presentations of their research. One presentation looked into restricted access to sexual and reproductive health services among populations in sub-Saharan Africa. Another presenter analysed the significance of the war experience for reformulating humanitarianism and rights during the early 1920s. Yet another presented research on reforming human rights protection for refugees. A panel discussion and open floor discussion followed.

“The new research hub will enable human rights researchers to strengthen and rethink their work to address today’s major challenges,” says Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen, RWI’s Head of Research.

The idea is that the hub will encourage researchers to critically inquire into what these changes in the political landscape mean for the field of human rights studies. It will push researchers to be innovative in terms of how they measure and analyse the world around them. And it will help ensure that the research and knowledge is clearly and broadly disseminated.

The hub is coordinated by a steering group with members of each participating department and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, which serves as the Secretariat. Apart from RWI the participating institutions are the Department of Philosophy, the Department of History, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Medicine, the Department of Sociology, the School of Social Work, the Sociology of Law Department, the Department of Political Science, the Department of Business Law, Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Centre for Environmental and Climate Research (CEC), Work, Technology and Social Changed (WTS), and the Child Rights Institute at Lund University.
2016 marked the completion of a three-year programme in the Middle East and North Africa that focused on increasing the exchange between Arab judicial systems to share best practices regarding the application of international human rights law in national courts.

The programme was carried out in cooperation with partner Arab judicial and academic institutes in Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. The programme formed part of the Institute’s work in the thematic focus area Fair and Efficient Justice. It successfully integrated research and support for human rights education in direct cooperation with judicial institutes providing platforms to encourage cross learning and sharing experiences among judicial institutes in the region.

By strengthening the capacities of primarily judicial institutes in the MENA region to integrate international human rights standards in their curricula and improve their teaching methodology, the ambition was that more judicial professionals would have the knowledge and tools to increasingly support the use of human rights standards by courts in the region.

Dr. Salma Sassi, a professor at the Higher School of Judiciary in Algeria, says the programme contributed to enhancing her teaching skills. “This programme offered us the opportunity to provide a comprehensive view for our judges in training regarding practices at the regional level,” she said. “This allows them to be more courageous and less fearful in applying international human rights standards by courts in the region.”

Carla Boukheir, Director, RWI Regional Office in Amman.

“Increasing Exchange Between Arab Judicial Systems

The programme was unique in how it both analysed conformity of existing national law with international standards and provided judges with recommendations for issues of non-conformity to apply in parallel to long-term legislative developments.”

Achievements

In only three years, the programme resulted in significant achievements. On a national level, the Institute and Arab judicial institutes carried out comparative studies in order to provide recommendations on how to bridge the gap between international human rights law and national laws. The focus areas in the different countries ranged from children’s rights, to labour law and procedural rights.

On a regional level, the cooperation between national working groups from the seven Arab countries in focus, who each contributed with their most important human rights jurisprudence, resulted in the creation of two books on Arab jurisprudence in the MENA region, one focusing on human rights in general, and one particularly on the human rights of women.

Based on the valuable national and regional comparative legal studies, the Institute developed a training methodology which was translated into an application manual to be used in training programmes for judges in the MENA region. The Institute and its partners also disseminated the training materials and organised moot courts and summer courses during the programme.

“This programme will certainly be important to integrate human rights standards as a whole in the educational materials that are used in the training for judges at judicial institutes as well as part of the ongoing training programmes for sitting judges over the coming years,” says Judge Nasser Al Salamat from the Judicial Institute of Jordan.

A ceremony to celebrate the significant achievements took place in December 2016 in Amman. It engaged international and national actors with the purpose of sharing the pioneering ideas and recommendations that the judicial and academic institutes developed in the application of international human rights standards in their national judicial systems.

“We hope they will become an essential building block for additional constructive and fruitful cooperation and a model for future programmes,” says Boukheir.

The programme was financially supported by Swedish Development Cooperation, and carried out as part of a larger cooperation in the MENA region coordinated by the International Legal Assistance Consortium.

Judge Nasser Al Salamat, Judicial Institute of Jordan.
The institute hosted the first Lund Human Rights Film Festival in early March 2016.

During the four-day festival, nine human rights films were screened and a number of Q&A sessions and panel discussions were held at Kino/Folkets Bio in Lund. In total, 537 people attended.

“Through the Lund Human Rights Film Festival, we garnered the captivating power of film to have a dialogue, and spread knowledge of the most challenging human rights issues of our time,” says Morten Kjaerum, RWI Director.

The festival was supported by Film i Skåne and the municipality of Lund.

Of the nine films featured, five — Fever at Dawn, Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution, A Quiet Inquisition, Mustang, and Boy & the World — had their Swedish premiere.

The four days of films were split into four human rights themes: people in exile, racial intolerance, women’s rights, and coming to terms with history.

One Q&A session was held with Ahmed Abed and Mona Ibrahim, a Syrian couple now living in Sweden, who were featured in the documentary On the Bride’s Side.

Péter Gárdos, the director of Fever at Dawn, Holen Kahn, the director of A Quiet Opposition, and Göran Olsson, the director of The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975, all attended the festival to talk about their films.

“The festival helped us reach a new audience with the message that human rights need to be taken seriously,” says Gabriel Stein, Head of Communications at RWI. “With our initial success, we hope to expand the festival in 2017.”
New Cooperation Programme in Zimbabwe

In February 2016, the Institute initiated a new three-year cooperation programme in Zimbabwe. The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to enhanced enjoyment of constitutional rights in Zimbabwe, through legislation, policies, practices and decision-making being increasingly informed by international human rights standards and principles.

The programme involves cooperation with academic institutions in Zimbabwe to further develop human rights education, research and library resources, as well as professional training in human rights for representatives of different sectors in society in Zimbabwe to also encourage further cooperation between sectors. The programme in Zimbabwe is financially supported by Swedish Development Cooperation.

Dr. Admark Moyo from the Herbert Chitepo School of Law, Great Zimbabwe University is one of the Zimbabwean academics participating in the programme. We spoke to him about his impressions of the programme.

How do you see this cooperation being important?
The programme has enabled academic institutions, civil society organisations (CSO), government and other institutions in Zimbabwe to come together thereby creating a platform for future collaboration between different institutions when it comes to human rights work in Zimbabwe.

What do you see as accomplishments and challenges of the programme in 2016?
The programme managed to break the divide between CSOs and government institutions promoting frank discussion and joint initiatives regarding what needs to be done to ensure that citizens enjoy fundamental rights and freedoms enshrined in the Constitution and international instruments. However, this again also provides an opportunity for participants from diverse backgrounds to learn from each other.

One of the challenges of the programme relates to the different levels of understanding among different sectors of the rights protected in the Zimbabwean Constitution and the duties they generate. However, this does not only improve the volume of resources available on human rights, but also enables partner institutions to meaningfully contribute towards the ongoing dialogue about rights and their place in our society.

In your view, what possibilities/challenges are there for the future for this cooperation?
There are possibilities for further expansion of the programme to include groups or institutions that have not been part of the cooperation framework. There is also room for further supporting research leading to the increased publication of books and articles for broader use.

There is also a need to plan activities carefully leading up to the 2018 elections to ensure that activities are not adversely affected and instead further contribute to peaceful elections.

Since the launch of the programme, we have witnessed significant growth in the area of human rights related research at partner academic institutions. This does not only improve the volume of resources available on human rights, but also enables partner institutions to meaningfully contribute towards the ongoing dialogue about rights and their place in our society.

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Dr. Admark Moyo, Herbert Chitepo School of Law, Great Zimbabwe University

“So far, the cooperation in Zimbabwe has been very positive. I was perhaps expecting more challenges initially during the first year of cooperation. But the programme was carefully planned during a longer period of time, and builds on previous engagement in Zimbabwe, which is probably one key factor for its successful implementation so far. We are however mindful of what lies ahead in relation to achieving lasting human rights change in Zimbabwe, and will continue to work in close cooperation with partners to try to make meaningful contributions to such change,” says Johannes Elle, Director of Programmes at RMI.

FACTS INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

More than 90% of the Institute’s operations concern international programmes

In 2016, around 40 Institute staff worked with international programmes at our offices in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Jakarta, Lund, Nairobi and Phnom Penh

The Institute’s international programmes in 2016 mainly received financial support from Swedish Development Cooperation. Other donors and funding partners included UNICEF and the International Legal Assistance Consortium.

Interventions are designed closely together with partners on the basis of local ownership and strong partnerships

All programmes are request-based and focus on delivering results for improved practical application of human rights

Programme activities do not include monitoring of state compliance in the human rights field

The Institute primarily works with international programmes in countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Middle East
Meet the Raoul Wallenberg Visiting Chair

Anne Orford is the Raoul Wallenberg Visiting Chair of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. She is also Redmond Barry Distinguished Professor and Michael D Kirby Chair of International Law at Melbourne Law School.

What did you work on in 2016?
I am collaborating with researchers at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and at the Faculty of Law to develop research and policy on the relation between civil war, humanitarian crises, and the mass movement of people.

This links my work here to the larger 5-year project on Civil War, Intervention, and International Law that I am leading in Melbourne, funded by the Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship scheme. The Laureate Program combines historical research, legal analysis, and critical theorising to grasp the changing patterns and practices of international intervention, and make sense of the evolving role and responsibility of external actors in civil and proxy wars.

The aim of my collaboration with Gregor Noll at the Lund University Faculty of Law and with researchers at RWI is to situate the asylum crisis within a broader field than that of migration and refugee politics alone. Our collaboration explores the links between this crisis and the challenges to the social state in Europe and beyond, the conduct of interventions in civil wars in the Middle East and North Africa, and the possibilities offered by a renewed focus on social rights and inclusion in the European project.

Why are you focusing on these issues?
The role of third states and other armed actors in exacerbating and responding to civil wars in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Africa has raised fundamental questions about the adequacy of the current international legal framework relating to intervention. This is particular the case in relation to the current asylum crisis. While researchers are regularly called upon to act as commentators on or official approach to rights? What challenges might this pose for the scholar or student of human rights, and what opportunities might it open up? A recording of that lecture is available as part of the Institute’s On Human Rights series on Soundcloud: https://soundcloud.com/onhumanrights

How did you benefit from being in Lund?
Being in Lund has allowed me to work with a group of cutting-edge international law scholars who are researching issues relating to humanitarian law, human rights law, and refugee law. I have benefited greatly from having the opportunity to study the relation between civil war and humanitarian crises, particularly relating to refugee flows into Europe from war-torn areas. It seems particularly appropriate to undertake this research in a Chair named for Raoul Wallenberg, given his humanitarian work in Hungary during the Second World War, particularly his role in helping Jewish refugees escape from Budapest.

From my perspective, the possibility of taking up this Visiting Chair on a part-time basis while I am an Australian Laureate Fellow is an extremely valuable opportunity. It makes it possible to undertake significant collaborative work on the humanitarian and refugee component of the civil war question from an international law perspective, while occupying the Raoul Wallenberg Chair offers a platform for promoting the findings of the Laureate work and for contributing to this major policy debate surrounding refugee flows and civil war in both Australia and Europe.

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Anne Orford, Raoul Wallenberg Visiting Chair
Publication Highlights in 2016

Human Rights and the Dark Side of Globalisation - Transnational law enforcement and migration control
Edited by Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen, RWI Research Director, and Jørn Vestvedt-Hansen, Aarhus University, Denmark.

In today’s world, core exercises of sovereignty such as migration control, surveillance, detention and policing, are increasingly conducted transnationally. This volume brings together leading scholars to examine these phenomena in context and attempt to answer difficult legal questions about divided, shared and joint responsibility. (Routledge)

Human Rights, Armed Conflict, and Mass Migration: The Raoul Wallenberg Legacy
A special issue of the Suffolk Transnational Law Review featuring a number of articles written by scholars and researchers working or affiliated with RWI.

Through the perspective of these six leading voices in the human rights field, it aims to provide an overview of how international human rights law and the current refugee situation in Europe have evolved since 2015. RWI contributors are RWI director Morten Kjaerum, RWI affiliate professors Martha F. Davis and Mark Gibney, and RWI Research Director Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen. (Suffolk Transnational Law Review)

Tracing the Roles of Soft Law in Human Rights
Edited by Stephanie Lagoutte, Danish Institute for Human Rights, Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen, RWI Research Director, and John Corone, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy

Soft law has always played an instrumental role in the field of human rights. Yet, this is the first volume to critically examine the role of soft law across a wide range of both established and emerging human rights regimes.

It includes case studies on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and on the regulation of armed conflict by soft law, two areas where soft law plays a paramount role in changing the reach of human rights protection. (Oxford University Press)

Global Urban Justice: The Rise of Human Rights Cities
Edited by Barbara Oomen, Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands, Martha F. Davis, RWI affiliate professor, and Michele Gigolo, Nottingham Trent University

This is the first book-length scholarly treatment of the movement. It is a ground-breaking book on the rise of human rights cities that raises critical questions on the topic of what it means to be a human rights city.

This book brings together academics and practitioners at the forefront of human rights cities and the “right to the city” movement to critically discuss their history and also the potential that human rights cities hold for global urban justice. (Cambridge University Press)

Global Urban Justice: The Rise of Human Rights Cities
Edited by Anne Orford, the Raoul Wallenberg Visiting Chair of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, and Florian Hoffmann, the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio).

This seminal volume provides original essays on major thinkers, concepts, approaches, and debates that have shaped contemporary international legal theory. The volume brings together many of the world’s leading theorists of international law. It is meant to act as a guide to the people, ideas, approaches, and debates that have formed contemporary international legal theory. It features 48 original essays. (Oxford University Press)

The Power of Legality and the Changing Practices of International Law
Edited by Nikolas M. Rajkovic, Universiteit van Tilburg, The Netherlands, Tanja Aalberts, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, and Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen, RWI Research Director.

This volume presents a new and heterodox framework for cross-disciplinary research between international law and international relations. It provides a critical appraisal of their interdisciplinarity to date and provides a useful overview of recent contributions and debates regarding the possibility of combined international law and international relations research. (Cambridge University Press)
Publications in 2016

Peer-reviewed publications

**Books**


**Articles**

- *Judicial Interpretation and Indigenous Peoples’ Rights to Lands, Participation and Consultation. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights’ Approach* Alejandro Fuentes 2016 In International Journal on Minority and Group Rights, 23, 1, p. 39-79
- *Introduction to the societal violence scale: Physical integrity rights violations and nonstate actors* Corlett, L., Haschke, P. & Mark Gibney 2016 Nov 1 In Human Rights Quarterly. 38, 4, p. 1102-1108
- *Decentering human rights from the international order of states: The alignment and interaction of transnational policy channels* Radu Mares 2016 Dec 1 In Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies. 23, 1, p. 171-199

**Book chapters**


Non peer-reviewed publications

**Books**


**Articles**

- *From International Law to Local Communities: The Role of the United Nations in the Realization of Human Rights* Morten Kjaerum 2016 Dec In UN Chronicle. LII, 4

**Working papers**


Report


Highlighted Publications Supported by RWI

Books

Disability Rights Studies in China, Social Sciences Academic Press (China), December


Arab Jurisprudence in the Application of International Human Rights Conventions, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Amman Regional Office, Ahmad Al Ashqar, 2016

Arab Jurisprudence in the Application of International Conventions on the Rights of Women, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Amman Regional Office, Samia Bourouba, 2016

Fair trial guarantees in the Penal Procedure Law No. 3 of 2001 according to international standards (integration mechanisms in judicial application), Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Amman Regional Office, Fatine Seif, Ahmad Hanoun, Ossama Dabbas, Mervat Rishmawi, 2016

Protecting the rights of the child victim in the criminal justice system from the perspective of international standards, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Amman Regional Office, Mohammed Taher Al Hamdi et al, 2016


During 2016, librarians and researchers from Zimbabwe, China, Cambodia, and Belarus visited the library to meet with RWI’s librarian Karl-Adam Tiderman for in-depth training on human rights and human rights librarianship.
A National Policy Platform for Human Rights Cities

The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) and RWI launched a project in 2016 aiming to set out standards for what characterizes a human rights municipality or region and how this is implemented in practical terms in the Swedish context.

The Swedish Human Rights City project resulted in a policy platform and a publication on how to develop and perform as a city or region that works systematically with human rights. The policy platform was formally adopted by SALAR on 10 March 2017.

"Local authorities and regions play a central role in the work to ensure respect for Sweden’s international commitments on human rights,” said Alice Bah Kuhnke, Sweden’s Minister for Culture and Democracy, speaking about the policy platform at the annual Democracy Days conference in March of 2017. “In order for this work to be successful it needs to be driven in a more systematic way and as a normal part of the work. This platform with human rights criteria paves the way for a more systematic way of working, and I welcome that.”

A Diverse Summit in Stockholm

For this project, international researchers, practitioners from civil society organisations, local Swedish politicians and civil servants were invited to a summit to develop thinking on what characterises human rights cities or regions, how a human rights city or region can be defined and how this could be applied to a Swedish context.

In preparation for the summit, participants submitted papers and articles, including case studies from other cities, on the successes and challenges of working with human rights at the local level.

Through a co-creative process, participants identified criteria to define human rights cities which were incorporated into a platform, or a policy brief, on what human rights concretely means for the work of local government.

The platform addresses this question through the four basic missions of municipalities and regions in Sweden, namely the city or region as a societal actor, as a democratic actor, as a welfare actor and as an employer – and how these missions are linked to safeguarding human rights.

The goal is that the policy platform will serve as a starting point and a development tool for the political and administrative leadership to strengthen their work on human rights at the local and regional level.

The papers submitted for the purpose of the summit also form the content of a publication, “Human Rights Cities and Regions: Swedish and International Perspectives,” which was published jointly by RWI and SALAR. They include academic articles, interviews with Swedish civil servants and politicians and articles from civil society organisations. They reflect the diverse angles from which this topic can and should be addressed.

“We hope the policy platform and publication will be a useful resource for politicians, civil servants working in local government and researchers and practitioners interested in human rights implementation at the local level,” says Emily Hanna, Programme Officer at RWI.
ABOUT RAOUl WALLENBERG

Raoul Wallenberg – a name which is immediately associated with exceptional courage, with humanity and determination. As a Swedish diplomat in Budapest in the years 1944/45 he saved tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews from a certain death at the end of the Second World War – an effort which indisputably appears to be one of the great achievements during the last century. What happened to him personally after he had been arrested by Russian troops and brought to Moscow is still a story untold. The Institute is named after Raoul Wallenberg in order to honour his work in the cause of humanity.