

**RAOUL  
WALLENBERG  
INSTITUTE**

OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW

**MAPPING**

**HOW TO SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS  
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN  
UKRAINIAN LAW SCHOOLS**

**Report of the pilot study**

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2023

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First Edition (2023)

ISBN 978-91-86910-53-2

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The author would like to thank Morten Koch Andersen, Zuzana Zalanova, and Robert Resnick for their inputs and methodological support to the report.

This report was developed by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) within a project financially supported through Lund University Foundation, thanks to a pledge from Wendi and Robert Resnick.

The views and opinions expressed in the study are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of RWI or the donor.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The pursuit of human rights and equal justice for all has long been recognized as a vital core value in the effort to relieve suffering and improve the quality of life around the world. These efforts require ongoing research, educational, and technical assistance programs to support and facilitate a nation's mapping of its own needs, challenges, goals, and best practices. The world has learned the importance of coming together to provide support to nations that are experiencing severe external challenges that pose clear and present existential threats. It is also critically important for the world to learn from these types of tragic experiences in an effort to prevent them from being repeated.

Russian armed aggression in Ukraine certainly has posed such existential threats. Among many other challenges, it has fundamentally disrupted education and research activities in Ukraine, including human rights studies. Despite all the difficulties, their education system has adapted as best it is able under the circumstances. Moreover, in the face of these grave challenges, student interest in human rights and international law issues has naturally increased in Ukraine and indeed around the world.

In this context, legal clinics in Ukraine have had to adapt to the shift to online formats, electricity outages, limited internet access, and the many other existential challenges resulting from living in a nation at war and under constant bombardment. Nevertheless, they have continued to provide legal counselling and carry out legal literacy activities, including in the sphere of war-related issues. Legal clinics have become the providers of vital legal aid, and thus their activities must be supported. Also, Russian aggression has made it challenging to conduct human rights research, with scholars facing safety-related stress, electricity outages, and a lack of mobility and funding.

*After systematically examining the challenges and needs of human rights education, research, and technical assistance programs in Ukraine, the following areas of vitally needed cooperation and support were identified.*

- **Research.** Firstly, joint research projects, international grants, and international mobility for scholars should be considered the most highly prioritized area of support for human rights research in Ukraine. External supervision of PhD students and methodology training would also benefit law schools.
- **Education.** Secondly, guest lectures, modules, and courses on human rights topics, access to online courses and legal studies databases would assist human rights education in Ukraine in overcoming some of their current challenges.
- **Technical Assistance.** Finally, the war-related challenges faced by legal clinics require resources, training, and funding from the international community. They would benefit substantially from having access to legal studies databases, strengthened international cooperation, developing digital technologies, and advancing students' soft skills.

We are pleased to present, in the body of this report, more detailed descriptions of the methodologies employed and the results and recommendations emanating from this study.

# INTRODUCTION

Russian aggression against Ukraine has created a fatal threat to day-to-day life in Ukraine, including academia. Like many other fields, human rights education is currently going through difficult times. In solidarity with Ukrainian human rights academia, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law has conducted a study to determine and report on the current state of human rights education and research in Ukraine and, with this knowledge, to draw the attention of the international community to their challenges and needs in this field.

Supporting human rights education and research in Ukraine during the ongoing Russian aggression, as well as in the future, is critical for promoting human rights domestically and advancing the field of human rights and international law globally. Ukraine is home to a remarkable pool of human rights scholars and researchers with the potential to make a significant contribution to the global research network.

The support of human rights academia in Ukraine will go beyond advancing the human rights field in the country itself. Consistent with its core mission, RWI believes that the promotion and conduct of human rights research and education not only will allow for turning the Ukrainian experience into a resource for finding solutions to the types of human rights violations that are being reported from this armed conflict, but that also has the potential to become a major driver of human rights and international legal development globally. Additionally, with international support for human rights academia, a better understanding of the Ukrainian experience can contribute to developing best practices, which can positively impact the lives of millions of people and ultimately contribute to global peace and security.

In addition, the study's findings are expected to generate badly needed financial and in-kind academic support to enhance Ukraine's ability to expand and coordinate its international academic networks and collaborations, to secure the capacity to continue human rights education and research, and create the conditions for academia to participate in Ukraine's human rights rebuilding work.

This mapping study report aims to examine the current state of human rights education and research in Ukraine, including the impacts on them from the current war, by focusing on such programs at eight major schools of law in Ukraine. The report's findings will provide an overview of the general characteristics of human rights research and education in Ukraine, including clinical legal education. The report will also highlight key components and challenges directly resulting from the current war. Finally, the report will provide recommendations for addressing the challenges and needs identified in the report in order to support and sustain human rights education and research in Ukraine during the times of war and long after it.

# METHODOLOGY

## SELECTION OF THE UNIVERSITIES

For the purposes of this pilot study, the number of universities was limited to ten. This number is determined by the time frame of the research and the peculiarities of the higher legal education system in Ukraine.<sup>1</sup>

Ten universities were selected by taking into account the 2021 Ukrainian bar association's ranking of law schools<sup>2</sup>, as well as the 2021 USAID report on the impact evaluation of the quality of legal education at four Ukrainian law schools.<sup>3</sup> In addition, the law schools' geographical representation has been taken into account.

However, two of the universities have yet to respond to RWI's proposal to participate in this study. Therefore the information about human rights education and research in these law schools was collected by desk research and should not be considered definitive.

## CURRENT STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

Data regarding the current state of human rights education in law schools was collected by analyzing each university's official program documents and curricula (when available). The curricula reviewed are in the public domain and can be accessed through the universities' official websites. Additionally, necessary clarifications were obtained during the interviews with law school representatives.

The study mapped courses on human rights and those indirectly related to human rights. Courses in international law, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law were also reviewed and taken into account for the purposes of this study. Courses devoted primarily to procedural rights within the fields of criminal and civil law were not considered human rights for the purposes of, or included in, this study.

## CURRENT STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH

Data regarding the current state of human rights research was collected by conducting a desk study, and more particularly, by correlating and analyzing the official websites of the universities with the staff lists and academics' personal web pages. Additionally, digital research databases and metrics were used, namely ORCID and Google Scholar. Similar to the human rights education mapping, necessary clarifications were obtained during the interviews with law school representatives.

The study also mapped research papers or other research projects that were directly focused on human rights or related to human rights. Another question was the availability of relevant research centres, institutes, or other research units working at the university in the field of human rights. The study was based on a keyword search related to human rights.

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<sup>1</sup> Given the varying volumes of data collected and the limited number of selected law schools, the findings of this study are merely intended to provide an overview, not generalizable results.

<sup>2</sup> Ukrainian Bar Association (n.d.). Annual Rating list of Ukrainian Law Schools (available in Ukrainian [here](#)).

<sup>3</sup> Swenson, D. R., Speedy Rice, T. H., Tsypiashchuk, M., & Romashchenko, I. (n.d.). (rep.). IMPACT EVALUATION USAID Ukraine, February, 2021. (p. 143).

The study was based on a keyword search related to human rights. Additional criteria were as follows:

- Human rights are the main research focus.
- Each scholar must produce at least three research papers or other research products.
- The research must have been conducted within the last ten years.

## **CURRENT STATE OF CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION**

Data regarding the current state of clinical legal education in law schools was collected utilizing the following three methodologies: i) desk research into the official websites and social media pages of the legal clinics; ii) analysis of the data provided by the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine (Registry of Legal Clinics and Surveys); and iii) interviewing a representative of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine.

The study focused on the following areas:

- How many students and staff are involved in the clinic's activities?
- What is the number of cases handled during the last year?
- Are the legal clinic's activities connected to the curriculum?
- Does the legal clinic use human rights language?
- Does the legal clinic prioritize any group of vulnerable population?

## **FEATURES, CHALLENGES, AND NEEDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION AND RESEARCH DURING THE WAR**

Data regarding the challenges and needs of the law schools during the current war were collected using the following three methodologies: i) interviewing representatives of the law schools or relevant departments;<sup>4</sup> ii). desk research into the universities' official websites and social media pages; and iii) analysis of data published by Ukrainian government bodies (e.g. Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine).

During the study of this area, the main focus was placed on the features and challenges of human rights education and research during the current war, as well as their correlation with the primary substantive characteristics of human rights education and research in general.

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<sup>4</sup> The core list of questions to be asked during the interviews can be found in Annex 5.

# UKRAINIAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES

## Human rights education

In Ukraine, human rights education is primarily offered through a university-based legal education system. Human rights are studied in the programs of Law and International Law. Interestingly, the legal profession remains one of the most popular among new students in Ukraine. 153 educational institutions in Ukraine offer Bachelor's programs in law and 119 offer Master's programs in law<sup>5</sup>. Moreover, 2 408 new Bachelor of Law students were enrolled in the ten universities that participated in this study in 2022. In 2021, the number of new students was 2 919<sup>6</sup>.

Future lawyers must first complete a four-year Bachelor's degree in Law or International Law. This is followed by a Master's degree in Law or International Law, which requires another year or two of study. Following completion of the master's programme, students may choose to pursue a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree, which takes an additional four years of study.

The Ukrainian legal education system includes a variety of specialized courses and certificate programs or specializations that are meant to provide students with the required expertise.

The human rights courses offered by universities in Ukraine cover a broad range of topics within the field. These include international and domestic human rights law, international humanitarian law, international criminal law, and European human rights law, among others. There are also specialized courses on certain topics, such as children's rights, women's rights, and refugees' rights.

In addition, in Ukrainian law schools, certificate programs, specializations, minors, and education profiles can be described as structured groups of electives on related topics. Some certificate programs are created in cooperation with law firms or other organizations.

Furthermore, universities in Ukraine offer various extracurricular activities and projects related to human rights, in addition to academic education. These activities include guest lectures, workshops, seminars, moot courts, and activities aimed at raising human rights awareness and capacity among students, scholars, and the general public.

Additionally, legal clinics are separate units of universities. Their status is generally regulated by Ukrainian legislation. In particular, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine has issued a model regulation for legal clinics in universities. Legal clinics in Ukraine carry out their educational activities in two directions: consultancy and legal literacy.

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<sup>5</sup> A unified state electronic database on education is available in Ukrainian. see <https://registry.edbo.gov.ua/search/>

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.



## Human rights research

In Ukraine, human rights academic research is conducted mainly by scholars individually, in association with universities or within research centers and institutes. Several research centres and institutes focus on human rights academic research in Ukraine, including, for instance, the Research Center for Genocide and Human Rights Studies at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, and the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at the Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University. Moreover, Ukrainian law lays down requirements regarding the number of research activities and publications required to obtain the Doctor of Philosophy degree or hold a position in a university department.

# OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY'S FINDINGS

## HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN THE CURRENT WAR

### Human rights education

The Russian invasion has significantly impacted higher education in Ukraine, including human rights studies. It has created various disturbances to the education process, the first of which was a forced break in activities for about a month. Furthermore, the security situation and the displacement of students and teachers have made it challenging to hold traditional in-person classes, leading many educational institutions to switch back to an online format.

However, even this solution has been challenged. The Russian Federation's targeted missile attacks on critical infrastructure have caused power outages and blackouts all over Ukraine, further complicating the ability to hold classes and complete the coursework. Obviously, the armed hostilities have also led to a high level of stress among students and teachers as they struggle to cope with the instability and uncertainty caused by the armed conflict. This may affect the student's ability to focus and learn and the teachers' ability to teach and engage effectively with their students. Additionally, the environment has changed significantly, with some professors and students serving in the military.

Despite these challenges, the educational system in Ukraine has adapted and continued to function, albeit not as it would under normal circumstances. In fact, there has been an increased interest in and demand for human rights courses and topics among students. In addition, human rights topics and courses have become more conflict-oriented, focusing on the human rights issues arising from the war. The issues of international humanitarian and criminal law have acquired a new, unique, and personal meaning for Ukrainian students and teachers. This increased interest is a testament to the resilience of the people of Ukraine, who are still striving for knowledge and advancement, even in the face of such adversity.

Overall, while the war has presented numerous challenges for human rights education in Ukraine, it has also led to an increased interest and engagement in the topic. The situation highlights the importance of human rights education in times of crisis and the ability of educators to adapt and continue providing valuable education despite difficult circumstances.

### Human rights research

Human rights research in Ukraine during the unprovoked and ongoing armed aggression of the Russian Federation against the country has also been challenging.

Researchers have faced various difficulties, many similar to those faced by the education system, including, electricity outages and blackouts and, therefore, lack of access to safe and efficient workplaces. Scholars have had to find ways to cope with the stress and instability of this conflicted situation in order to continue their work. Additionally, international mobility has been hindered, making it difficult for researchers (especially males) to travel abroad to participate in conferences or to visit other research institutions, both of which are crucial for learning about the best international practices and experiences involved in addressing human rights and humanitarian law issues. Furthermore, the lack of funding has made it difficult for researchers to access the resources they need to continue their work.

In light of these challenges, some researchers have had to adapt and to start working as legal practitioners with international organizations, NGOs, and state institutions. This has allowed them to continue their work, albeit in a different capacity, and to assist the state in addressing its challenges resulting from Russia's armed aggression. Furthermore, it is expected that Ukrainian researchers will increase their focus on conflict-related issues in the future, especially due to the abundance of data available for field research.

In summary, human rights research in Ukraine during the war is a challenging task due to the ongoing armed aggression of the Russian Federation. Although some researchers have adapted by working with international organizations, NGOs, and state institutions, others may need additional support. Despite the difficulties, more conflict-related research is expected to be published, and researchers will likely have, unfortunately, even more possibilities for future field research.

## **Clinical legal education**

Since the war began, legal clinics have faced the same challenges as human rights education, namely the need to shift to online formats amid ongoing electricity outages caused by Russia's continued bombardment of Ukraine's power grid. The security situation also impedes the ability of legal clinics to provide services and counselling to those in need. In addition, access to the internet is often limited or non-existent, making it challenging to provide services online.

Despite these difficulties, students of legal clinics continue to be involved in counselling and legal literacy activities and have shifted their focus to war-related issues. Legal aid to internally displaced persons, social service law, military and veteran issues, war crimes and human rights abuses, and other war-related issues have become the primary focus of many legal clinics. Some clinics have joined or organized volunteer centres to expand their services and reach more individuals in need. Overall, legal clinics play a significant role in providing legal aid to vulnerable populations during times of war, and their activities should be supported and protected, and when possible expanded.

# NEEDS AND AREAS OF COOPERATION

## Human rights education

- Most of the universities that participated in this study share similar needs and are ready to cooperate in such areas as:
- Guest lectures on human rights issues by professors from abroad, as well as sharing of modules and courses from partner universities, for Ukrainian students.
- International mobility and access to online courses to broaden students' perspectives and knowledge.
- Access to legal studies databases to provide students with relevant and up-to-date study materials.

Additionally, cooperation in the areas below would also be helpful for some of the universities.

- Scholarships for students in Ukraine to support their education and help them overcome financial barriers.
- Opening courses at Ukrainian universities to students from abroad to promote further international cooperation and exchange.
- Joint development and promotion of online courses to provide students with flexible and accessible education.
- Establishing human rights libraries to provide students with access to relevant literature and resources.
- Assistance in enhancing human rights education in universities to help institutions improve the quality of their education.

## Human rights research

Similarly, universities have common needs in the area of human rights research. Therefore, the following are the possible areas of cooperation to support human rights research in Ukraine:

- Joint research projects between Ukrainian scholars and researchers abroad to combine field research and international perspectives.
- International grants for research projects in Ukraine to provide the necessary funding opportunities for research in the field of human rights.
- International mobility for Ukrainian scholars to enable them to travel abroad to promote exchange and cooperation.

Some participating law schools also said they would find it particularly beneficial to cooperate in the following areas:

- Additional external supervision for PhD students to help them improve their research skills.
- Training in methodologies to enable scholars to conduct more effective and widely accepted research.
- Publishing international research papers in Ukrainian academic journals to promote the dissemination of knowledge in the country.

## Clinical legal education

The war has also created several challenges for legal clinic education, highlighting the need for cooperation and support from the international community in the following respects:

- Access to legal studies databases to provide students with relevant and up-to-date data and legal approaches.
- International mobility opportunities for Ukrainian students and mentors and cooperation with legal clinics abroad to exchange their experiences and promote clinical legal education as such in the country.
- Training of war-related legal knowledge and human rights to help students understand the legal and human rights dimensions of the war.
- Technical support and training in digital technologies relevant to clinical activities can help students and mentors adapt to new technologies.
- Soft skills training to help students develop the skills necessary to become effective human rights lawyers (for example, legal research, legal analysis, and legal writing).

Overall, it is essential that the international community continues to support the efforts of human rights educators, researchers, and practitioners in Ukraine. This can be done by providing funding, training, and in-kind resources for projects engaging in human rights education and research in the country. The sustained and continuous cooperation in the areas defined above will ensure that Ukrainian academia can preserve and continue to develop their full potential to conduct human rights educational, research, and clinic programs, and be viewed as valued and respected members of international academic networks.





# **PROFILES OF THE UNIVERSITIES**



# NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF THE KYIV-MOHYLA ACADEMY

## Human rights education

The National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (henceforward the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy) offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in law at the Faculty of Law. Human rights-related courses are taught by the Department of International and European Law and the Department of Theoretical Jurisprudence and Public Law.

In addition, among the eight certificate programs offered for students are the Public International Law and Human Rights program (for Bachelor's students), and Current Issues of Public International Law and International Law and Security Programs (for Master's students). Certificate programs in the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy are structured groups of electives on related topics. Some certificate programs are created in cooperation with law firms or other organizations. For example, International Law and Security certificate programs take place in cooperation with NATO. Successful completion of the certificate program is evidenced by the diploma. Students are able to combine two or more certificate programs and/or electives.

The Bachelor's program's curriculum provides two obligatory human rights-related courses (Public International law and International Law of Human Rights Protection) and six electives (e.g., Human Rights and their Protection, European Human Rights Law, Human Rights and Biomedicine, etc.).<sup>7</sup>

The Master's program's curriculum does not offer obligatory human rights-related courses, but seven electives are available for students to choose from (e.g., ECtHR Case Law, Current Issues in European Human Rights Law, Genocide Studies, etc.).

The activities of the Kyiv-Mohyla Moot Court Society and participation in the moot courts have made a considerable contribution to the comparatively high demand for human rights-related courses.

## Clinical legal education

The Kyiv-Mohyla Academy's legal clinic is a unit in the Faculty of Law that aims to provide free primary legal aid to the population. Using human rights language, the legal clinic focuses in particular on protecting the constitutional rights and freedom of the citizens and organizations and the rights of young people and children. In addition, other areas of the clinic's work include family law, civil law, social security law, labor law, and business and investment law. The legal clinic cooperates with the state authorities, local governments, and public organizations (Coordinator of OSCE projects in Ukraine, the American Lawyers Association, the Ukrainian Legal Aid Foundation, etc.). Sixteen mentors and 18 students are involved in the work of the legal clinic.

In addition, participation in the clinic's activities is available to students in the form of two elective courses at the undergraduate level (third and fourth years of studies). Focusing its activities also on legal literacy, the legal clinic holds conferences, seminars, and training related to clinical education. The Kyiv-Mohyla Academy's legal clinic is a member of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine. The clinic provided 74 consultations to its clients in 2021.

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<sup>7</sup> The complete list of human rights courses at Kyiv-Mohyla Academy can be found in Annex 1.

In addition, as a compulsory course for Master's students, the Department of International and European Law has developed an international legal clinic project. The main goal of this course is to draft and present memoranda for 'clients' within the sector (international organizations) on current issues in international law. Similarly, as in a classic legal clinic, students work under the guidance of experienced tutors (one teacher for each group of 25-30 students). The draft memorandum on lawfare prepared by the students last year can be accessed [here](#).

## Human rights research

Human rights research in the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy is exercised by academics within the research centres or individually. The faculty of law has two human rights-related research centres: The genocide and Human Rights Research Center (director – Myroslava Antonovych); and the Center for Research on the Rule of Law (director – Volodymyr Venher). Both centres consider human rights law as one of the leading research matters.

Individually, human rights-related research is conducted in the following spheres:

- Genocide studies (Dr. Antonovych, Dr. Koval, Dr. Nuridzhanian)
- European human rights system (Dr. Nuridzhanian, Dr. Pushkar)
- International Humanitarian Law (Dr. Koval)
- International Criminal Law (Dr. Nuridzhanian)
- Right to vote; right to democratic governance (Dr. Bernadskyi)
- Rights of humanity, and the right to peace (Dr. Ivankiv).

## Features of human rights education and research at the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

- The curriculum includes a wide range of human rights and related courses: general (mandatory and elective) and specialized (mostly electives).
- The topic of human rights is also studied briefly in other general courses at the Master's and Bachelor's levels, namely legal theory, constitutional law, etc. Also, some human rights topics are included in field courses, such as those related to justice, criminal process, and health law.
- Some of the professors of specialized human rights courses successfully combine teaching with practical work in international organizations, state institutions, etc. Several teachers also work in universities abroad.
- Approximately six professors conduct research in the field of human rights. However, human rights are not the central area for research at the faculty of law. Other areas of law prevail in the number of studies.
- Some professors also conduct interdisciplinary research.

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN WARTIME: FEATURES AND CHALLENGES

### Education and research activities

- Education and research activities at the University were suspended from February 24, 2022, until the beginning of April due to the full-scale attack on the Russian Federation on Ukraine and the introduction of martial law.
- Education and research activities were resumed partially in April and completely at the beginning of the autumn semester, taking place online and occasionally in hybrid formats.
- One of the biggest challenges for education and research remains power outages and sometimes even blackouts. In fact, the learning process is built around power schedules (if applicable). The University cannot provide a workplace with electricity and access to the internet to all teachers and

researchers due to an insufficient number of generators.

- 21 students were involved in the legal clinic's activities during the spring-summer period. However, due to the security situation, the legal clinic had limited ability to accept clients or conduct legal education activities.
- Teachers and researchers are involved in activities supporting the state and society and work in the fields of International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law with international organizations and state institutions.
- In addition, some students and members of staff joined the armed forces.

## **Education and research activities – substantial areas**

- In the 2022/2023 academic year, interest in and the demand for human rights, international law and related courses have grown significantly.
- The focus of human rights courses (separate topics, tasks, etc.) was adapted by teachers using actual examples related to the war against Ukraine and became more war-oriented.
- The faculty plans to introduce at least three courses related to human rights for the next academic year: Human Rights and High-tech, International Law and International Politics, and Transitional Justice.
- Academic faculty staff launched the initiative 'Law in Wartime' and are developing legal solutions where there are no answers to legal questions that have arisen during the war.
- The legal clinic's focus has shifted to wartime legal issues. This applies to both client counselling and legal literacy activities. Mentors and students joined the initiative 'Law in a Wartime'.

## **Identified needs and areas of cooperation**

- The problem of electricity shortages may be solved by the generators. This can ensure access to the workplace for teachers and to hybrid classes for students.
- There is also a need for the support of professors who currently teach online. For example, such support may be provided by opening Kyiv-Mohyla academy courses (English-taught) for students from abroad.
- The Kyiv Mohyla Academy is open for cooperation in online education, with the joint development and promotion of online courses for both students of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and their counterparts elsewhere.
- Opportunities for research mobility and joint research projects can also support academics staying in Ukraine. This might be especially relevant for young scholars and PhD students looking for additional external counselling or supervision regarding their research projects.
- The Kyiv-Mohyla Academy is willing and needs to found a human rights library (digital and physical) and establish access to digital databases in legal studies.
- The Kyiv-Mohyla Academy invites scholars to support the Kyiv-Mohyla Law&Politics Journal by submitting their papers to it.
- The Kyiv-Mohyla Academy is also eager to support its students during the war with scholarship opportunities, student mobility, access to online courses in universities abroad, and guest lectures or modules and courses.
- Kyiv-Mohyla University's legal clinic defined its needs as follows: (i) access to legal studies databases; (ii) international mobility for students and mentors; (iii) training in war-related legal knowledge; and (iv) technical support and training in digital technologies relevant to its activities.

# TARAS SHEVCHENKO NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF KYIV

## Human rights education

The Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (henceforward Taras Shevchenko University) offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in Law at the Institute of Law, as well as undergraduate Bachelor's and Master's programs in International Law at the Institute of International Relations.

### International Law Programs

Among the eleven specializations offered to students in International Law programs (4 for bachelor's and 7 for master's) are Public International Law (for Bachelor's students) and International Protection of Human Rights (for Master's students). Specialization in an International Law program can be defined as the block of courses devoted to a specific field of international law. Students can choose only one specialization for the Bachelor's program and one for the Master's.

The Bachelor's program's curriculum provides one obligatory course related to human rights (Public International Law) and five electives (e.g., Human Rights in International Law, the European System of Human Rights Protection, Implementation of the European Social Charter, etc.).<sup>8</sup>

The curriculum of the Master's specialization in International Protection of Human Rights specifies seven compulsory human rights-related courses (e.g., International Humanitarian Law, International Legal Mechanisms of Human Rights; Gender Issues in International Law, Migrants' Rights Protection, European Law on Human Rights Protection, etc.) and three related electives (e.g., Regional Systems of Human Rights Protection, International Protection of National Minorities and Indigenous Peoples, etc.).

### Law Programs

The Bachelor's program's curriculum does not provide any compulsory human rights courses, though students in their 2nd and 3rd year of studies can choose from four electives (e.g., Public International Law, Right to a Fair Trial, Genesis of Human Rights, or Business and Environmental Rights). Students in the 4th year will study the course on International Human Rights Protection after choosing the "block" of electives in "Constitutional Law."

Among 41 blocks of electives in the Master's program, three could be considered human rights-oriented: i) Health Care Law; ii) Human Rights; and iii) Human Rights and Administrative Law. Apart from this, information law and constitutional law blocks also provide human rights courses (Information Rights Protection and International Protection of Human Rights, respectively). There are no compulsory human rights courses for master's students.

Alternatively, Master's students enrolled in a Double Diploma Program in association with the Mykolas Romeris University in "Ukrainian and European Legal Studies" take a compulsory course in International Protection of Human Rights.

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<sup>8</sup> The complete list of the human rights courses at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv can be found in Annex 2.



## Clinical legal education

Taras Shevchenko legal clinic ‘Pro Bono’ is the unit of the Institute of Law that aims to provide legal aid primarily for representatives of socially vulnerable groups (without specification). Using human rights language, the legal clinic focuses, in particular, on the protection of children’s rights. Other areas of the clinic’s work are family law, inheritance law, social security law, labour law, etc. There is no information about the clinic’s possible cooperation with NGOs or governmental institutions. Three students are involved in the work of the legal clinic. Participation in the clinic’s activities is voluntary and has no connection with the program curriculum. Additionally, focusing its activities also on legal literacy, the legal clinic holds conferences, seminars, and meetings related to clinical education, as well as carries out media activities. Pro Bono legal clinic is a member of the Association of legal clinics of Ukraine. The clinic provided seven consultations for its clients in 2021.

## Human rights research

Human rights research at Taras Shevchenko University is conducted by academics individually. There is no information about any relevant research centres. Human rights-related research is conducted in the following spheres:

Institute of Law

- Freedom of religion; (Dr. Vasylchenko, Dr. Tsvetkova)

Institute of International Relations

- Reproductive rights, gender rights (Dr. Medvedieva)
- Social rights, non-discrimination (Dr. Fedorova)
- International humanitarian law, freedom from torture (Dr. Gnatovskyi)
- European human rights law (Dr. Gnatovskyi)
- Rights of people with disabilities (Dr. Basysta)

Features of human rights education and research at Taras Shevchenko University

- The curriculum of the law program includes a few human rights and related courses in the form of general and specialized human rights electives.
- The curriculum of the International Law program includes a wide range of human rights and related courses at the Bachelor’s and Master’s levels.
- In the law program, the topic of human rights is also studied (briefly) in other general courses, namely Legal Theory, Constitutional Law, etc. Also, some human rights topics are included in the field courses, such as those related to justice, the criminal process, and health law.
- Approximately six professors conduct research in the field of human rights at the university. However, human rights are not the central area for research at the university. Other areas of law prevail in the number of studies.

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN WARTIME: FEATURES AND CHALLENGES

### Education and research

- Education and research in the University were suspended from February 24, 2022, until the beginning of April.
- Education and research in the Law program, which resumed partially in April and completely at

the beginning of the autumn semester, went online. Currently, education remains in an online format with some occasional hybrid classes. The International Law Program is currently taking place partly online and partly in class.

- One of the biggest challenges for education and research remains power outages and sometimes even blackouts. In fact, the learning process is built around power schedules (if applicable). However, the university is able to provide a workplace for teachers and researchers with electricity and access to the internet using generators.

## Education and research in substance

- In the 2022/2023 academic year, interest in and the demand for human rights, international law and related courses in the Institute of Law have increased slightly.
- The focus of human rights courses (separate topics, tasks, etc.) was adapted by teachers according to actual examples related to the war against Ukraine. The course on human rights activism (International Law Master's program) was entirely devoted to human rights in armed conflict.
- The interest in human rights topics and courses has increased among students of both programs.
- The Institute of Law does not plan to introduce any courses related to human rights for the next academic year.
- The curriculum of the International Law Program will be supplemented by a new course on 'Protection of Ukraine's Interests in International Courts and International Judicial Institutions.
- Teachers and researchers are involved in activities supporting the state and society as volunteers. Some of them, along with some students, also joined the armed forces.
- The legal clinic's focus shifted to wartime legal issues. This applies to both client counselling and legal literacy activities. In particular, students started to focus mainly on legal aid for internally displaced persons and refugees. However, due to the security situation, the legal clinic had only a limited ability to accept clients and conduct legal education activities.

## Identified needs and areas for cooperation

- There is a need for the support of professors who currently teach online. For example, such support may be provided by joint or guest lectures and courses by the university's professors for students from abroad.
- The opportunities for research mobility and joint research projects can also support the faculty's academic staff staying in Ukraine. This might be especially relevant for PhD students looking for additional external counselling or supervision regarding their research projects.
- Taras Shevchenko University is willing to support its students during the war with scholarship opportunities as well as international mobility, access to online courses in universities abroad and guest lectures or modules and courses.
- The moot court society at the law faculty is ready to establish cooperation with moot court societies abroad and in working on joint projects.
- The legal clinic of Taras Shevchenko University is ready to cooperate with legal clinics in Europe regarding legal aid for Ukrainian refugees.

# YAROSLAV MUDRYI NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY

## Human rights education

Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University (henceforward the National Law University) offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in law at nine institutes and faculties, as well as undergraduate Bachelor's and Master's programs in International Law in the International Law Faculty.

### International Law Programs

The Bachelor's program's curriculum offers two compulsory human rights courses (International Human Rights Law and Public International Law) and two electives (European Convention on Human Rights and its Practice and International Humanitarian Law).

There is no information about compulsory human rights courses within the curriculum of the Master's program in International Law. However, students can choose two electives (Council of Europe Law, and Human Rights Protection in ECtHR).

### Law Programs

Bachelor's and Master's programs are taught as part of the 'minor' of the student's choice. The National Law University provides eight minors for the Bachelor's program and 14 for the Master's. Minors in Law programs can be defined as a block of compulsory courses devoted to the specific field of law. Students can choose only one specialization for the Bachelor's program and one for the Master's. Besides, occasionally students can select some other elective courses.

The Bachelor's program's curriculum provides one obligatory human rights course (ECHR), except for international law; however, students of the four minors participate in some human rights courses or courses related to them. In the "Prosecution and Criminal Justice" course, students are taught human rights protection by criminal law in the Justice and Advocacy minors – Human and Citizens' Rights and Freedoms course, and in the International Law minor – the Universal and Regional Human Rights Protection Systems course.

Similarly, six minors for Master's students each offer from one to three human rights courses. Courses are distributed in the following way.

- Prosecution and Criminal Justice minor – International Human Rights Standards in Criminal Law
- European and International Business Law Minor – International Criminal Law, Transitional Justice, Universal and Regional Human Rights Protection Systems.
- Justice Institutions minor – Constitutional Protection of Human Rights
- Civil Litigation Minor – Right to a Fair Trial in Civil Litigation
- Legal Basis of State Security minor – International Humanitarian Law
- Public International law minor – International Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law

There are no compulsory human rights courses in the Master's program.

## Clinical legal education

The National Law University's legal clinic aims to provide legal aid for clients and solve their legal problems. The clinic does not use human rights language in describing its activities. The clinic's focal areas are family law, inheritance law, housing law, labour law, etc. There is no information on the clinic's cooperation, if any, with NGOs or governmental institutions, nor whether the clinic serves only vulnerable population groups. There is no information about the connection of clinical activities with the curriculum. However, students participating in the clinic's activities may choose specific electives (not related to human rights law). Additionally, the legal clinic holds conferences, seminars, and lectures, as well as carries out media activities. The National Law University's legal clinic is not a member of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine. Sixty-eight students are involved in clinical legal activities. There is no information about the number of mentors involved in clinical legal education, nor the number of consultations provided.

## Human rights research

Human rights research at the National Law University is conducted by academics individually and within the research centres.

These research centres are:

- International Lab on Business and Human Rights (Dr. Uvarova)
- Center of Rule of Law and Religion (Dr. Vovk)
- Centre for Research into Legal Problems of Transitional Justice (Dr. Senatorova)
- Center on Law, Ethics and Digital Tech (Dr. Razmietaieva)
- Individually, human rights-related research is conducted in the following spheres:
- Freedom of Expression (Dr. Slinko, Dr. Uvarova)
- United Nations Human Rights System (Dr. Asirian)
- Right to self-defense and weapons (Dr. Boichuk)
- Rights of people with disabilities (Dr. Maidanyk)
- Gender equality and women's rights (Dr. Uvarova)
- Freedom of religion (Dr. Vovk)
- International criminal law, human rights and armed conflicts (O. Senatorova)

Additionally, Dr. Shchokin, Dr. Anakina, and Dr. Maryniv have conducted a single project on human rights research while mainly focusing on other fields of international law.

Features of human rights education and research at the National Law University:

- The curriculum of the Law and International Law programs does not provide a wide variety of human rights and related courses. Nonetheless, both programs offer core courses within the field as electives at the Bachelor's and Master's levels.
- Also, the topic of human rights is studied briefly in other general courses, namely legal theory, constitutional law, and international law. Additionally, some human rights topics are occasionally included in field courses, such as those related to justice, criminal process, or health law.
- Approximately seven professors conduct research in the field of human rights at the University. However, human rights remains a minor research area at the University.

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN WARTIME: FEATURES AND CHALLENGES

### Education and research

- Education and research in the University were paused on February 24, 2022, for three weeks.

- Education and research were resumed partially in April and completely at the beginning of the autumn semester in the online format.
- One of the biggest challenges for education process and research remains power outages and sometimes even blackouts. In fact, the educational process is built around power schedules (if applicable).
- The legal clinic has only a limited ability to accept clients and conduct legal education activities due to the security situation.
- Teachers and researchers are involved in activities supporting the state and society as volunteers and professionals in the fields of international criminal law and other fields with international organizations and state institutions.
- In addition, some students, including PhD candidates, and staff members joined the armed forces.

## Education and research in substance

- In the 2022/2023 academic year, interest in and the demand for human rights and international law courses and topics have increased slightly.
- The focus of human rights topics and courses (separate topics, tasks, etc.) was adapted by teachers according to actual examples related to the war against Ukraine and have become more war-oriented.
- Also, some professors organize extracurricular lectures and seminars devoted to human rights and international law in armed conflicts.
- The university has supported those of its students who have been displaced from their homes because of occupation and warfare with housing with student accommodation and food packages from the beginning of the Russian invasion.
- The legal clinic's focus has shifted to wartime legal issues. This applies to both client counselling and legal literacy activities. In particular, students have started to focus mainly on legal aid for internally displaced persons and refugees.
- A Department of Human Rights and Legal Methodology will be established at the National Law University in 2023.

## Identified needs and areas for cooperation:

- Opportunities for research mobility and joint research projects can support those of the faculty's academic staff who are staying in Ukraine. This might be especially relevant for PhD students looking for additional external counselling or supervision regarding their research projects.
- The National Law University is willing to support its students during wartime with scholarship opportunities as well as international mobility, access to online courses in the universities abroad and guest lectures or modules and courses. At the same time, attention should also be drawn to the broadening of opportunities for students who are staying in Ukraine.
- The National Law University is also open to cooperation in online education in the form of the joint development and promotion of online courses for both its students and its opposite numbers elsewhere.



# NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF OSTROH ACADEMY

## Human rights education

The National University of Ostroh Academy (henceforward Ostroh Academy) offers undergraduate Bachelor's and Master's programs at the Institute of Law. The Department of Theory and History of State and Law and the Department of State and Legal Disciplines teach human rights-related courses.

The Bachelor's program curriculum provides three obligatory human rights-related courses (Public International Law, Constitutional Law: Human Rights, International Law of Human Rights Protection) and two electives (ECtHR Jurisprudence. European Convention on Human Rights: civil aspect).

The Master's program curriculum provides two compulsory human rights courses (Principles of Public International Law and Human Rights Protection; Basics of International Criminal Law). However, human rights electives are not available.

## Clinical legal education

The Ostroh Academy's 'Pro Bono' legal clinic is the unit of the University that aims to provide free primary legal aid to the population. Using human rights language, the legal clinic focuses in particular on human rights law. Apart from that, other areas of the clinic's work are family law, civil law, contract law, labour law, etc. "Pro Bono" does not provide consultations regarding criminal and commercial law. The legal clinic cooperates with public organizations (e.g., ELSA). Twelve teachers and 33 students are involved in the work of the legal clinic. Participation in the clinic's activities is voluntary and has no connection with the program's curriculum. Focusing its activities on legal literacy, the legal clinic holds seminars and training courses and implements the 'Street Law' program. The Ostroh Academy's legal clinic is a member of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine. The clinic provided 27 consultations for its clients in 2021.

## Human rights research

Human rights research at the Ostroh Academy is conducted by academics individually. There is no information on relevant research centers, if any. Human rights-related research is conducted in the following spheres:

- Positive obligations (Dr. Kovalchuk)
- European Convention on Human Rights (Dr. Strelbitska)

In addition, a state-funded research project on statehood and human rights protection in Ukraine is implemented at the Ostroh Academy (director – Dr. Popelushko).

## Features of human rights education and research in the Ostroh Academy

- The program's curriculum offers a few human rights courses, both general and specialized.
- The topic of human rights is also studied briefly in other general courses, namely legal theory, constitutional law, etc. Also, some human rights topics are included in field courses, for example, those related to justice, the criminal process, and health law.
- Most of the professors at the Institute successfully combine teaching with legal practice.
- Approximately two professors conduct research in the field of human rights. Despite this, human rights are not the central area for research at the law faculty.

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN WARTIME: FEATURES AND CHALLENGES

### Education and research

- Education and research in the University were suspended from February 24, 2022, until the beginning of April.
- Education and research resumed online in April and were partially being held in class in the autumn semester. Students who receive temporary protection abroad have a chance to continue their education according to their individual plans.
- One of the biggest challenges for education process and research remains power outages and sometimes even blackouts. In fact, the learning process is built around power schedules (if applicable).
- 33 students were involved in the legal clinic's activities during the spring and summer period. However, due to the security situation, the legal clinic had only a limited ability to accept clients and conduct legal education activities.

### Education and research activities in substantial areas

- In the 2021/22 and 2022/23 academic years, the interest in and demand for human rights, international law and related courses have grown significantly. Given the number of guest lectures on human rights during war, it can be evidenced that students find this area relevant and exciting.
- The focus of human rights courses (separate topics, tasks, etc.) was adapted by teachers according to real examples related to the war against Ukraine and became more war-oriented.
- The Institute of Law currently does not plan to introduce any new human rights courses.
- Teachers and researchers are involved in activities supporting the state and society by volunteering.
- The legal clinic's focus has shifted to wartime legal issues. This applies to both client counselling and legal literacy activities. Moreover, alongside the legal clinic, faculty have built a prototype of a volunteer center to provide legal aid to the victims of war crimes and internally displaced persons in the region. The legal aid is combined with the psychological aid provided by the students and staff of the Department of Psychology of the University.

### Identified needs and areas for cooperation

- The Ostroh Academy is open for cooperation in online education in the form of the joint development and promotion of online courses for both students of the Ostroh Academy and their opposite numbers elsewhere.
- Opportunities for research mobility and joint research projects can also support researchers of the Ostroh Academy. This might be especially relevant for young scholars and PhD students looking for additional external counselling or supervision regarding their research projects.
- The Ostroh Academy is willing to support its students during wartime with international mobility, access to online courses in universities abroad and inviting guest professors for online lectures or modules/courses them.
- The legal clinic of the Ostroh Academy defined its needs as follows: (i) access to legal studies databases; (ii) enrolment of more staff; (iii) training for students and staff interested in war-related legal knowledge and human rights studies (e.g., international humanitarian and criminal law); (iv) technical support and training in digital technologies relevant to clinical activities; (v) training in legal writing, analysis, and argumentation

# KARAZIN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF KHARKIV

## Human rights education

Karazin National University of Kharkiv (henceforward Karazin University) offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in law, as well as Bachelor's and Master's programs in International Law at the Faculty of Law.

## International Law Programs

The Bachelor's program's curriculum provides two compulsory human rights courses (Public International Law and Human Rights in International Law); and two electives within two educational profiles: Protection of Vulnerable Groups in International Law in the Public Law Profile, and European Human Rights Protection System in the EU Law profile.

Educational profiles in the Bachelor's program can be defined as the elective systems of courses devoted to a specific sphere of international law. Students can choose only one profile for the Bachelor's program. Profiles are not available for the Master's program.

The curriculum of the Master's program in International Law specifies two compulsory human rights courses: Current Issues of Public International Law and International Humanitarian Law, and two electives (Human Rights Education for Legal Practitioners and International Regulation of Migration Processes).

## Law Programs

The curriculum of the Bachelor's program in law provides one obligatory human rights-related course (International Law). At the same time, students can study national and international mechanisms of the human rights protection course within two elective educational profiles (State and Law profile and Civil Law profile).

Educational profiles in the Law programs can be defined as the elective systems of courses devoted to a specific sphere of law. Students can choose only one profile for the Bachelor's program and one for the Master's program

From the two educational profiles in the Master's program and additional electives, students can choose the ECtHR Case Law course, studying the State and Law profile, as well as the additional course in Public International Law.

## Clinical legal education

Karazin University's legal clinic aims to provide legal aid for low-income groups within the population. The clinic does not use human rights language while describing its activities and does not define areas of focus. There is no information about the clinic's possible cooperation with NGOs or government institutions, nor the connection between clinical activities and the curriculum. However, the clinic also holds conferences, seminars, and lectures. Karazin University's legal clinic is not a member of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine. There is no information about the number of students and mentors involved in clinical legal education, nor the number of consultations provided.

## Human rights research

Human rights research at Karazin University is exercised by academics individually. There is no information about any relevant research centres. Human rights-related research is conducted in the following spheres:

- Rights of the child (Dr. Navrotskyi)
- Social human rights (Dr. Kulachok-Titova)
- Human rights in the EU, rights of elderly (Dr. Syroyid)
- Freedom from torture, human trafficking (Dr Voitsikhovskiy)
- International humanitarian law, right to security (Dr. Fomina).
- Right to privacy (Dr. SerioGIN)

## Features of human rights education and research at Karazin University

- The curricula of both programs include a few fundamental human rights and related courses.
- The topic of human rights is also studied (briefly) in other general courses, such as legal theory and constitutional law. Also, some human rights topics are included in field courses, for example, those related to justice and the criminal process.
- Some of the professors at the Institute successfully combine teaching with legal practice.
- Approximately six professors conduct research in the field of human rights. Despite this, human rights are not the central area for research at the law faculty.
- The legal clinic carries out its activities primarily for in-house use.

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN WARTIME: FEATURES AND CHALLENGES

### Education and research

- Education and research in the University were suspended from February 24, 2022, until the beginning of April.
- Education and research are currently carried out in an online format.
- 47% of the academic staff are currently in Kharkiv.
- One of the biggest challenges for education and research remains power outages and sometimes even blackouts. In fact, the learning process is built around power schedules (if applicable). The University cannot provide regular access to the workplace with electricity and the internet for all the teachers and researchers due to an insufficient number of generators.

### Education and research in substance

- In the 2022/2023 academic year, interest in and the demand for human rights, international law and related courses have grown noticeably.
- The focus of human rights courses (separate topics, tasks, etc.) was adapted by teachers according to actual examples related to the war against Ukraine and have become more war-oriented.

- Teachers and researchers are involved in voluntary activities supporting the state and society.
- The faculty does not plan to introduce any new human rights courses this academic year.

## Identified needs and areas for cooperation

- The problem with the electricity shortage may be solved by the generators, thus ensuring access to the workplace for teachers.
- Karazin University is open to cooperation in online education and is eager to support its students during the war with student mobility, access to online courses in universities abroad and guest lectures or modules and courses.
- Opportunities for international research mobility and joint research projects can also support academics staying in Ukraine. This might be especially relevant for young scholars and PhD students looking for additional external counselling or supervision regarding their research projects.
- Karazin University invites scholars to support the Journal of Karazin Kharkiv University by joining their editorial committee.
- The Faculty of Law requests external guidance and support regarding the reform of human rights education in the curricula of its Bachelor's and Master's programs.



# ODESA MECHNIKOV NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

## Human rights education

Odesa Mechnikov National University (henceforward Odesa National University) offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in Law at the Faculty of Economics and Law. No certificate programs, majors or educational profiles are available at Odesa National University.

The Bachelor's program's curriculum offers two obligatory human rights-related courses (Public International Law and International Human Rights Protection) and three electives: i) Legal Forms of Human Rights Protection; ii) Modern Human Rights; and iii) Law of International Security and Armed Conflicts.

The Master's program's curriculum offers two obligatory human rights-related courses (Issues of Constitutional Law and Human Rights; and Issues of Public and Private International Law. Also, one relevant elective course is available for students to choose from (Human Rights Protection by ECtHR).

## Clinical legal education

A legal clinic has officially been established at Odesa National University, but it is currently inactive.

## Human rights research

Human rights research at Odesa National University is exercised by academics individually. There is no information about any relevant research centres. Human rights-related research is conducted in the following spheres:

- Human rights in private and public law (Dr. Haran Stukalenko)
- European human rights law, international humanitarian law (Dr. Levenets)
- Collective human rights, human rights obligations (Dr. Olena Nihreieva)

Additionally, Dr. Korchevna is the researcher in a single human rights research project while mainly focusing on other fields of law.

## Features of human rights education and research at Odesa National University

- The curriculum includes a few human rights courses, mainly covering general knowledge.
- The topic of human rights is also studied briefly as part of other general courses, such as legal theory and constitutional law, etc. Also, some human rights topics are included in field courses, such as those related to justice and the criminal process.
- Some of the professors at the Institute successfully combine teaching with legal practice.
- Approximately three professors conduct research in the field of human rights. Despite this, human rights are not the central area of research in the Law faculty.

# **EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN WARTIME: FEATURES AND CHALLENGES**

## **Education and research**

- Education and research in the University were suspended from February 24, 2022, until the beginning of April.
- Education and research took place in online and occasionally hybrid formats. In the autumn semester of the 2022/23 academic year, the first-year students had some on-site classes.
- One of the biggest challenges for education and research remains power outages and sometimes even blackouts. In fact, the learning process is built around power schedules (if applicable). The University cannot provide a workplace with electricity and access to the internet for all teachers and researchers due to an insufficient number of generators.

## **Education and research activities- substantial areas**

- In the 2022/2023 academic year, interest in and the demand for human rights and international law courses and topics have grown dramatically.
- The focus of human rights courses (separate topics, tasks, etc.) was adapted by teachers according to actual examples related to the war against Ukraine and have become more war-oriented.
- The faculty plans to introduce a new course in 'Human Rights Studies'.
- The faculty conducts many extracurricular activities on the topic of human rights (lectures, seminars, and webinars).

## **Identified needs and areas for cooperation**

- Opportunities for research mobility and joint research projects can support academics staying in Ukraine. This might be especially relevant for young scholars and PhD students looking for additional external counselling or supervision regarding their research projects.
- Odesa National University is eager to support its students during the war with international student mobility, access to online courses in universities abroad and guest lectures or modules and courses.
- Odesa National University is willing and needs to establish access to legal studies digital databases.
- Odesa National University is looking for guidance and assistance in establishing and developing its legal clinic.

# YURII FEDKOVYCH CHERNIVTSI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

## Human rights education

Chernivtsi National University offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in Law, as well as Bachelor's and Master's programs in International Law at the Faculty of Law. There are no certificate programs, majors or educational profiles available at Chernivtsi National University.

## International Law Programs

The Bachelor's program's curriculum offers three obligatory courses related to human rights (Public International Law, International Humanitarian Law, and International Protection of Human Rights), and nine electives (e.g., Rights of the Child (International Aspect), Gender Equality in International Law, etc.)<sup>9</sup>

The curriculum of the Master's program in International Law specifies one obligatory human rights course: ECHR: interpretation and Application. Also, students may choose two related electives (International Health Law and International Regulation of the Right to Education).

## Law Programs

The curriculum of the Bachelor's program in law offers two obligatory human rights-related courses (International Law and International Protection of Human Rights). Also, three relevant electives are available for students (Health Care as a Human Right, Gender Equality in International Law, and Constitutional Protection of Human Rights).

The Master's program's curriculum offers one obligatory human rights-related course (ECHR: Methodology and Interpretation) and nine electives (Protection of the Right to a Fair Trial, Protection of the Right to Life, Protection of the Rights of Refugees and Migrants, etc.).

The activities of the Human Rights Lab, which operates within the faculty and engages in human rights literacy activities, significantly influence the high demand for human rights-related courses.

## Legal clinical education

Chernivtsi National University's legal clinic is the unit in the Faculty of Law that aims to provide legal aid to the population. The clinic does not use human rights language in describing its activities. It is not emphasized whether the clinic only serves vulnerable population groups. Areas of the clinic's work are family law, civil law, administrative law and the rights of serving soldiers and veterans. There is no information about the clinic's cooperation with NGOs or governmental institutions, if any. Sixteen teachers and 35 students are involved in the work of the legal clinic. Participation in the clinic's activities is obligatory for students as part of the curriculum. Additionally, focusing its activities on legal literacy as well, the legal clinic holds conferences, seminars, and meetings related to clinical education, and carries out media activities. Chernivtsi National University's legal clinic is a member of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine. The clinic provided 180 consultations for its clients in 2021.

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<sup>9</sup> The complete list of the human rights courses at Yurii Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University can be found in Annex 3.

## Human rights research

Human rights research at Chernivtsi National University is exercised by academics individually. There is no information about any relevant research centres. Even though one of the general research topics in the Faculty of Law is human rights protection, human rights-related research is fully conducted mainly in the area of European human rights law by Dr. Karvatska.

In addition, Dr. Chepel, Dr. Manyk, Dr. Huralenko (European human rights system) and Dr. Donchenko (theory of human rights) conduct human rights research while mainly focusing on other fields of law.

Features of human rights education and research at Chernivtsi National University

- Each program's curriculum includes a wide range of human rights and related courses, divided between general (mostly mandatory) and specialized (mostly electives).
- The topic of human rights is also studied briefly as part of other general courses, namely legal theory, constitutional law, etc. Also, some human rights topics are included in field courses, for instance, those related to justice, the criminal process, and health law.
- Some of the professors at the Institute successfully combine teaching with legal practice.
- Approximately five professors conduct research in the field of human rights. Despite this, human rights are not the central area for research in the Law faculty. Other areas of law prevail in a number of studies.

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN WARTIME: FEATURES AND CHALLENGES

### Education and research

- Education and research in the University were paused from February 24, 2022, until the beginning of April, when they were resumed in an online format.
- In the autumn semester of 2022, education took place in a combined format (switching between online and on-site).
- One of the biggest challenges for education and research remains power outages and sometimes even blackouts. In fact, the learning process is built around power schedules (if applicable). The University cannot provide a workplace with electricity and access to the internet to all teachers and researchers due to an insufficient number of generators.
- Around ten students were involved in the legal clinic's activities during the spring-summer period. However, due to the security situation, the legal clinic had limited ability to accept clients or conduct legal education activities.
- Some members of Chernivtsi National University's academic staff and students are currently serving in the army.

## Education and research in substance

- In the 2022/2023 academic year, the interest in and demand for human rights and related courses and topics and the field of international law have grown significantly.
- The focus of human rights courses (separate topics, tasks, etc.) was adapted by teachers according to actual examples related to the war against Ukraine and have become more war-oriented.
- The faculty does not plan to introduce any new human rights courses at present.
- Teachers and researchers are involved in activities supporting the state and society as volunteers.
- The legal clinic shifted its focus to legal aid for internally displaced persons. In particular, such assistance was provided to persons temporarily living in student housing. Also, the legal clinic established cooperation with the free secondary legal aid provider. In addition, students assist military personnel (mainly social security issues).

## Identified needs and areas for cooperation

- The problem with the electricity shortage may be solved by the generators, thus ensuring more stable access to the workplace for more teachers and hybrid classes for students.
- Opportunities for research mobility and various joint research projects can support academics staying in Ukraine. This is especially relevant for young scholars and PhD students looking for additional external counselling or supervision regarding their research projects.
- Chernivtsi National University is eager to support its students during the war with scholarship opportunities, student mobility, access to online courses in the universities abroad and guest lectures or modules and courses.
- The legal clinic of Chernivtsi National University has defined its needs as follows: (i) access to legal studies databases; (ii) international mobility for students and mentors; (iii) training in war-related legal knowledge for students and mentors; (iv) technical support and training in digital technologies relevant to its activities; and (v) soft skills training for students and mentors.



# UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

## Human rights education

The Ukrainian Catholic University offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in Law at the School of Law.

The Bachelor's program curriculum offers three compulsory human rights courses (Public International Law, Constitutional Law. Human Rights, Council of Europe Law. ECtHR Jurisprudence) and one elective (International Humanitarian Law).<sup>10</sup>

The Human Rights Master's program's curriculum offers three obligatory human rights-related courses (Human Rights Theory and History, Protection of the Right to Private Property, and Human Rights Protection by the ECtHR). Also, nine electives are available for students to choose from (e.g., Human Rights Advocacy, Human Rights and the Environment, Freedom from Torture, etc.).

Like the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, an essential contribution to the high demand for human rights-related courses has been made by the activities of the Law School's Moot Court Society and participation in the moot courts.

## Legal clinical education

The Ukrainian Catholic University's legal clinic is the unit within the School of Law that aims to provide free primary legal aid mainly to serving soldiers and veterans, consumers of financial services, and the University's community. Other areas of the clinic's work are family law and the rights of internally displaced persons. The clinic does not use human rights language in describing its activities. The legal clinic cooperates with non-governmental and other public organizations (Council of Europe in Ukraine, the Legal Hundred, etc.). Three teachers and thirty students are involved in the work of the legal clinic. Participation in the clinic's activities is obligatory for students as part of the curriculum. Focusing its activities on legal literacy, the legal clinic implements the 'Street Law' program and carries out media activities. The Ukrainian Catholic University's legal clinic is a member of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine. The clinic provided 54 consultations for its clients in 2021.

## Human rights research

Even though generally in the Ukrainian Catholic University one of its prioritized research topics is 'The sanctity of human life and the ethical nature of human rights', the School of Law does not provide information about any research activity on its basis. Additionally, most of the academic staff are affiliated with other Ukrainian or European Institutions.

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<sup>10</sup> The complete list of the human rights courses at Ukrainian Catholic University can be found in Annex 1.

## Features of human rights education and research at the Ukrainian Catholic University

- The programs' curriculum includes various human rights and related courses.
- The Master's Program in Human Rights is the only one of its kind in Ukraine that focuses solely on human rights. However, students are still taught other fields, such as church social studies, anti-corruption interdisciplinary studies, and others.
- The topic of human rights is also studied briefly as part of other general courses on the Bachelor's level, including legal theory and public international law. Also, some human rights topics are included in field courses, for instance, those related to justice, the criminal process, and health law.
- Some of the professors at the School of Law successfully combine teaching at the Ukrainian Catholic University with legal practice, as well as teaching at other universities.
- The Ukrainian Catholic University cannot be considered a research institution at present. Being a relatively young private university, its main focus is educational activities.

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN WARTIME: FEATURES AND CHALLENGES

### Education and research

- Education and research in the University were suspended from February 24, 2022, until the beginning of April.
- In the autumn semester of 2022, teaching occurred in class (offline).
- One of the biggest challenges for teaching and research remains power outages and sometimes even blackouts. In fact, the educational process is built around power schedules (if applicable).
- Around twenty students were involved in the legal clinic's activities during the spring-summer period. However, due to the security situation, the legal clinic had only a limited ability to accept clients and conduct legal education activities.

### Education and research in substance

- In the 2022/2023 academic year, the interest in and demand for human rights and international law courses and topics have grown significantly.
- The focus of human rights courses (separate topics, tasks) was adapted by teachers according to actual examples related to the war against Ukraine and have become more war-oriented. The syllabuses were revised to satisfy students' need for specific knowledge.
- The School of Law is currently starting to reform its Master's program by branching it out into three directions (Anti-corruption, International and European Trade, and Health Law). All three directions would remain human rights-based.
- The legal clinic has shifted its focus to legal aid for internally displaced persons and war-related issues.

## Identified needs and areas for cooperation

- There is a need to support professors who currently teach online. For example, such support may be provided by opening Ukrainian Catholic University courses (English-taught) to students from abroad.
- The Ukrainian Catholic University is open to cooperation in online education, including the joint development and promotion of online courses for both students of the Law School and their opposite numbers elsewhere.
- Opportunities for international mobility can also support professors who are interested in experiencing exchanges and staying in Ukraine.
- Since the Ukrainian Catholic University is a private university, supporting its students at a time of war with scholarship opportunities remains a top priority.
- International student mobility, access to online courses in universities abroad and guest lectures or modules and courses could also support students at the Ukrainian Catholic University.
- The Ukrainian Catholic University is willing and needs to establish access to legal studies digital databases.
- The Ukrainian Catholic University law school needs expert methodological support regarding the ongoing reform of the Master's program.
- The legal clinic of the Ukrainian Catholic University defined its needs as follows: (i) access to legal studies databases; (ii) international mobility for students and mentors; (iii) training in war-related legal knowledge; (iv) financial support for the teachers and the involvement of more staff; and (v) soft skills training.

# UZHGOROD NATIONAL UNIVERSITY<sup>11</sup>

## Human rights education

Uzhgorod National University offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in law, as well as Bachelor's and Master's programs in International Law at the Faculty of Law. There are no available certificate programs, majors or educational profiles at the faculty.

## International Law Programs

The Bachelor's program's curriculum provides two mandatory courses related to human rights (Public International Law and International Law on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms). There is no information about relevant electives.

The curriculum of the Master's program in International Law specifies five compulsory human rights courses (International Health Law, International Humanitarian Law, Migration Law, etc.).

## Law Programs

The curriculum of the Bachelor's program in law provides two obligatory human rights-related courses (International Law and Human Rights). Also, two relevant electives are available for students (European Standards of the Right to a Fair Trial, Human Rights in Special Legal Regimes). The Master's program's curriculum provides no obligatory human rights-related courses. Additionally, there is no information about relevant electives.

## Legal clinical education

Uzhgorod National University's legal clinic is a unit of the University. Focus areas of the clinic's work are family law, labour law, land law, social security law, etc. The clinic does not use human rights language in describing its activities. The legal clinic cooperates with the state authorities and local governments. It is emphasized that 30-35% of the clinic's clients are rural dwellers due to on-site consultations. Thirteen teachers and 26 students are involved in the work of the legal clinic. There is no information about the connection of clinical activities with the curriculum. Focusing its activities also on legal literacy, the legal clinic holds conferences, seminars, and meetings related to clinical education, and carries out media activities. Uzhgorod National University's legal clinic is a member of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine. The clinic provided 90 consultations for its clients in 2021.

## Human rights research

Human rights research at Uzhgorod National University is conducted by academics, mostly individually. However, the Research Institute of Comparative Public Law and International Law is part of the faculty and focuses on human rights and European integration). Human rights-related research is conducted in the following spheres:

- International human rights law (Dr. Badyła)
- European Court of Human Rights practice (Dr. Palinchak)

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<sup>11</sup> We could not establish contact with this university, therefore all the data was collected from open sources.

- Human rights and globalization, Universality (Dr. Petsa)
- Human rights and digitalization (Dr. Popovych)
- Right to a fair trial (Dr. Lemak).
- Human rights theory (Dr. Paida)
- Constitutional rights (Dr. Berch. Dr. Pifko)
- Right to a healthy environment (Dr. Vasylchuk)
- Somatic rights (Dr. Hromovchuk)
- Rights of refugees and internally displaced persons (Dr. Kotliar)
- International humanitarian law (Dr. Kolotukha)

In addition, Dr. Baryska and Dr. Hartman were conducting a single human rights research project (on children's rights and human rights generations respectively), while mainly focusing on other fields of law.



# IVAN FRANKO LVIV NATIONAL UNIVERSITY<sup>12</sup>

## Human rights education

Ivan Franko Lviv National University (henceforward Lviv University) offers Bachelor's and Master's programs in law at the Institute of Law as well as undergraduate Bachelor's and Master's programs in International Law at the Institute of International Relations.

## International Law Programs

The Bachelor's program's curriculum provides two compulsory human rights courses (Public International Law and International mechanisms of human rights protection); however, there are no available electives within the field.

The curriculum of the Master's program in International Law specifies two compulsory human rights courses (International Humanitarian Law, International Human Rights Law and Globalization;) and one corresponding elective (International Migration Law).

Alternatively, Master's students enrolled in the Double Diploma Program in association with Vilnius University's course on International and European Law are taking courses in International Human Rights in a Global Context, International Humanitarian Law, International Migration Law, Human Rights Protection in Practice, Sustainable Development and Environmental Law.

## Law Programs

The Bachelor's program's curriculum provides two compulsory human rights courses (Public International Law and International Standards for Protecting Human Rights. At the same time, students can choose from four electives (e.g., Human Rights and their Protection in Ukraine, Introduction to the Jurisprudence of the ECtHR).

From among fourteen blocks of electives in the Master's program, students can choose the block of Human Rights and their Legal Support, which provides nine human rights courses (Human Rights and Religion, Human Rights in Case Law, European Standards of the Right to a Fair Trial, etc.). At the same time, the Master's program's curriculum offers two obligatory human rights-oriented courses: i) Implementation and Protection of the Rights, Freedoms and Interests of a Person Concerning Public Administration; and ii) Social and Legal Standards for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Citizens in the Conditions of Globalization of the Labour Market.

## Clinical legal education

Lviv University's legal clinic (the Practical Law Lab) provides legal aid for clients in all legal fields except for criminal law. The clinic does not use human rights language in describing its activities. There is no information about the clinic's possible cooperation with NGOs or governmental institutions. It is not emphasized whether the clinic serves vulnerable groups of the population. Participation in the clinic's activities is obligatory for students as part of the curriculum.

<sup>12</sup> We could not establish contact with this university, therefore all the data was collected from open sources.

Additionally, the legal clinic holds conferences, seminars, and lectures. Lviv University's legal clinic is not a member of the Association of Legal Clinics of Ukraine. One teacher and 60 students are permanently involved in the legal clinic's work. Only students in the third and fourth years of studies can be accepted into the legal clinic. The clinic provided 100 consultations for its clients in 2021

## Human rights research

Human rights research at Lviv National University is conducted by academics individually. There is no information about any relevant research centres. Human rights-related research is conducted in the following spheres:

Faculty of Law

- Human rights theory (Dr. Rabinovych)

Faculty of International Relations

- International humanitarian law, human rights theory (Dr. Repetskyi)
- UN human rights system, rights of people with disabilities (Dr. Zubareva)
- The European system of human rights (Dr. Kuzma)
- International humanitarian law (Dr. Levytskyi)
- Human rights and finance (Dr. Hrabynskyi)

# ANNEXES

## Annex 1

### KYIV-MOHYLA ACADEMY LAW PROGRAM

COMPULSORY COURSES	ELECTIVE COURSES
<b>BACHELOR'S DEGREE</b>	
1. The international law of human rights protection	1. European human rights law
2. Public international law	2. International protection of gender rights and rights of the child
	3. Human rights and biomedicine
	4. International humanitarian law
	5. Human rights and their protection
	6. International criminal law
<b>MASTER'S DEGREE</b>	
	7. Practical aspects of appeals to the European Court of Human Rights
	8. International health law
	9. Current issues of international humanitarian law
	10. International law clinic
	11. Current issues of international criminal law
	12. Precedents of the European Court of Human Rights
	13. Control mechanisms for ensuring human rights protection

## Annex 2

### TARAS SHEVCHENKO NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF KYIV LAW PROGRAM

COMPULSORY COURSES	ELECTIVE COURSES
<b>BACHELOR'S DEGREE</b>	
I-III years of studies	
	1. Public international law
	2. Right to a fair trial
	3. Human rights genesis,
	4. Business and environmental rights
IV year of studies	
Block: Constitutional law	
	1. International human rights protection
<b>MASTER'S DEGREE</b>	
	Human rights-oriented blocks of electives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Block: Healthcare law</li> <li>• Block: Human rights</li> <li>• Block: Human rights and administrative law</li> </ul> Blocks of electives containing human rights courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Block: Constitutional law (international protection of human rights course)</li> <li>• Block: Information law (information rights protection)</li> </ul>

## INTERNATIONAL LAW PROGRAM

COMPULSORY COURSES	ELECTIVE COURSES
<b>BACHELOR'S DEGREE</b>	
Public international law specialization	
Public international law	Human rights in international law
	The European system of human rights protection
	Implementation of the European Social Charter
	European human rights standards in terms of internal displacement and transitional justice
	Protection of property rights in the practice of the ECtHR
<b>MASTER'S DEGREE</b>	
International Protection of Human Rights specialization	
International humanitarian law (for all specializations)	Regional systems of human rights protection
International legal mechanisms of human rights (for all specializations)	International protection of national minorities and indigenous peoples
Gender issues in international law	Council of Europe law
Migrants' rights protection	
European law of the human rights protection	
International and national protection of labour rights	
Workshop on human rights activities	

## Annex 3

### CHERNIVTSI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL LAW PROGRAM

COMPULSORY COURSES	ELECTIVE COURSES
<b>BACHELOR'S DEGREE</b>	
1. International human rights protection	1. Rights of the child (international aspect)
2. Public international law	2. Gender equality in the international law
3. International humanitarian law	3. Human rights in the EU
	4. Somatic human rights
	5. Procedure and features of appeal to the ECHR
	6. The rights of national minorities in international law
	7. International legal protection of the rights of women and children
	8. International legal protection of war victims
	9. International criminal court
<b>MASTER'S DEGREE</b>	
1. ECHR: interpretation and application	1. International health law
	2. international regulation of the right to education



## LAW PROGRAM

COMPULSORY COURSES	ELECTIVE COURSES
<b>BACHELOR'S DEGREE</b>	
1. International law of human rights protection	1. Health care as a human right
2. Public international law	2. Gender equality in international law
	3. Constitutional protection of human rights
<b>MASTER'S DEGREE</b>	
1. ECHR: methodology of application and interpretation	1. Protection of the right to a fair trial
	2. Protection of the right to life
	3. ECHR practice in the labour and corporate rights protection
	4. Protection of the right to private and family life
	5. Protection of the right to liberty and personal integrity
	6. Protection of the right to freedom of expression
	7. Protection of the right to marriage
	8. Protection of the rights of refugees and migrants
	9. Monitoring and investigation of the human rights violations

# Annex 4

## UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY LAW PROGRAM

COMPULSORY COURSES	ELECTIVE COURSES
<b>BACHELOR'S DEGREE</b>	
1. Constitutional law: human rights	1. International humanitarian law
	2. Law and religion
<b>MASTER'S DEGREE</b>	
1. Human rights theory and history	1. Human rights advocacy
2. Protection of the right to private property	2. Human rights and the environment
3. Human rights protection by the ECtHR	3. Freedom from torture
	4. Human rights in the emergencies
	5. Comparative human rights law
	6. Health law in Ukraine
	7. International trade and human rights
	8. International criminal law
	9. Legal clinic

## Annex 5

### The list of core questions for the interviews with law schools' representatives<sup>13</sup>

1. Has the educational process been fully resumed? In what format?
2. Do you think the interest in human rights courses and those related to it has changed?
3. Are there or are new (elective) courses on human rights planned?
4. Have your professors changed the topics and assignments because of the war? Do you have any examples of which courses?
5. How has the legal clinic been working during the war?
6. What is the attitude towards online education at the university?
7. What are the challenges and needs for both teaching and research?
8. In your opinion, how should researchers and teachers who stay in Ukraine be supported?

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<sup>13</sup> This list contains only core questions common to all universities. The detailed list of questions was altered individually for each university in order to take into account all the peculiarities and the required amount of data.

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