

# **BISLA**

## **Human Rights**

Fall Term 2021

Instructor: JUDr. Sylvia Tiryaki, PhD  
e-mail: tiryaki@bisla.sk

### **Course Description**

This basic course on human rights aims to provide students with an understanding of what the human rights are and their importance in today's world. To this end, we look at the historical origins, doctrine, how they are formed in law, institutional structure of the movement and the challenges to its foundations. To see the 'big picture' students are encouraged to think critically about the human rights as a whole. The course acquaints students with the contemporary issues ranging from torture and arbitrary detention to rights of refugees and access to health.

### **Course Outlines**

- 1: General introduction**
- 2: Human rights: Concepts and Discourse**
- 3: History of international human rights**
- 4: Human rights and United Nations**
- 5: Hierarchy of human rights, qualified and unqualified rights**
- 6: Regional dimension of human rights: The European Convention on Human Rights (1)**

- 7: Regional dimension of human rights: The European Convention on Human Rights (2)**
- 8: Implementation, international monitoring, treaty bodies**
- 9: Human rights of refugees, stateless people**
- 10: Minority rights**
- 11: War crimes and crimes against humanity**
- 12: Slavery and human trafficking (1)**
- 13: Slavery and human trafficking (2)**
- 14: Reading week (1)**
- 15: Reading week (2)**
- 16: International crime of torture**
- 17: Discrimination and equality: Women rights (1)**
- 18: Discrimination and equality: Women rights (1)**
- 19: Rights of the child, rights of disabled people**
- 20: Right to education**
- 21: Legitimate Restrictions on Freedom**
- 22: Right to health, death penalty**
- 23: The Issue of Privacy**
- 24: The right to development, climate change**
- 25: Food, housing and work/Water**
- 26: Review**

**Main Readings:**

1. Andrew Clapham, Human Rights. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007
2. Henry J. Steiner, Philip Alston & Ryan Goodman, International Human Rights in Context. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Oxford: Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008
3. Clare Ovey & Robin C.A. White, The European Convention on Human Rights, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006

In addition to the required course readings, basic documents like relevant international conventions, declarations as well as constitutions are necessary companions of students of this course.

Case studies are being conducted with and by students during the semester. Online meetings with experts and practitioners are organised when feasible.