



30th Anniversary Conference of the Human Rights Centre of the University of Potsdam

Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence: Addressing Challenges, Enabling Rights

7-8 November 2024

Call for Papers

The Human Rights Centre of the University of Potsdam is turning 30, and in celebration of this milestone, we are hosting a conference on “Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence: Addressing Challenges, Enabling Rights”. The conference will take place in Potsdam, Germany, from November 7-8, 2024.

In recent years, the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) has ushered in transformative possibilities across various sectors, promising improved efficiency, innovation, and convenience. However, as AI technologies continue to proliferate, questions surrounding their impact on fundamental human rights have come to the forefront of global discourse. The intersection of human rights and AI presents a complex landscape, characterized by both potential opportunities and significant challenges.

The conference seeks to provide a platform for interdisciplinary dialogue to explore the intricate relationship between human rights and AI. By bringing together scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and activists, we aim to explore how AI can contribute to the realization and protection of human rights. Specifically, the conference will delve into the legal aspects of AI regulation, its role in climate action and sustainability, and its ethical implications in healthcare. Additionally, discussions will encompass AI's impact on asylum and migration, as well as its potential for aiding human rights defenders in identifying and preventing human rights violations.

We welcome submissions from **doctoral candidates** to present their AI-related human rights research in a separate PhD session during the conference scheduled to take place on **November 7th, 2024 from 12:00 to 13:30**. Please note that participants are expected to cover their expenses primarily themselves, or through their home institution.

Submission Guidelines:

Participants are invited to submit abstracts of their research papers by **April 15th, 2024**.

When submitting an abstract, participants must include the following information:

- Abstract (300-500 words)
- Names and affiliations
- Contact details
- A short bio (maximum 200 words).

Successful applicants are required to submit a full paper of 4,000-8,000 words no later than September 15th, 2024. They are expected to present their papers in person with presentations lasting 10-15 minutes.

Submission Email: Please send your abstracts to mrz@uni-potsdam.de with the subject line: "Abstract Submission - Human Rights and AI Conference."

Important Dates:

- Abstract Submission Deadline: April 15th, 2024
- Notification of Acceptance: May 15th, 2024
- Full Paper Submission Deadline: September 15th, 2024
- Conference Dates: November 7th-8th, 2024

About the Organizers:

The Human Rights Centre (German: MenschenRechtsZentrum; MRZ) was founded in 1994 (founding director: Prof. Dr. Eckart Klein). It was the first independent academic human rights institute in the Federal Republic of Germany. The Human Rights Centre is one of the key research institutes of the University of Potsdam. It promotes interdisciplinary research and teaching and offers policy advice in the field of human rights. The Centre itself does not offer any courses of study; however, its academic members lecture at the Faculties of Arts and Law of the University of Potsdam.

Since 2010 and 2011 respectively, the directors of the Human Rights Centre have been Prof. Dr. Andreas Zimmermann, LL.M. (Harvard), who is the chair for Public Law, particularly European and Public International Law as well as European and International Economic Law, and Prof. Dr. Logi Gunnarsson, who is the chair for Ethics/Aesthetics at the Department of Philosophy.

The Centre co-operates with various institutions dealing with human rights issues, such as Council of Europe, Federal Ministry of Justice, Federal Foreign Office, as well as the German Institute for Human Rights, where Prof. Zimmermann is a member of the board of trustees.

The Human Rights Centre holds conferences and publishes regularly in the field of human rights. Its interdisciplinary library, which is specialized in human rights, is part of the University's library and is open for on-site research.