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As this Annual Report demonstrates, the academic year 2021-2022 at the Centre for Fundamental Rights was a time of growth and diversification of our research, teaching and engagement.

Our team has grown from three doctoral and post-doctoral researchers to twelve. Our research has diversified with its new thematic focus on new technologies, alongside our existing themes of climate crisis, asylum and migration and authoritarian challenges. As part of the new Volkswagen Foundation European Challenges project, AFAR (Algorithmic Fairness for Asylum Seekers and Refugees), we welcomed new postdoctoral and doctoral researchers to the Centre: Francesca Palmiotto joined us from the EUI, and Elliot Ross from UCL and Leeds. Joining our cohort working on authoritarian challenges is Dr Ivo Gruev, from the University of Oxford, with a focus on comparative constitutionalism, and Joseph Finnerty, from the University of Ghent, with a focus on the responses of the European Court of Human Rights to authoritarian, and populist challenges.

We are also sad, but extremely proud, to say goodbye to two of our researchers. Dr Alexandre Skander Galand, the Centre’s inaugural postdoctoral research fellow, took up a post as Assistant Professor of International Law at the University of Maastricht. The Centre’s first doctoral researcher, Juan Auz, accepted a postdoctoral position to continue his work on human rights and the climate crisis at the University of Tilburg. We are deeply grateful to Skander and Juan for their foundational contributions to the development of the Centre and wish them every success in their new roles.

Our public engagement in this academic year brought distinguished scholars and practitioners from across the globe to discuss pressing human rights issues, ranging from combating racism in Germany, and accountability for crimes against humanity in Syria, to Europe’s discriminatory borders. We reacted to the unlawful Russian invasion of Ukraine with a panel event on 17 March 2022. Several researchers touched on the invasion and its implications in their work, including on criminal accountability and refugee protection. We hosted two sets of public colloquia, one on the theme of the Effectiveness of Human Rights, with political scientists and IR and legal scholars presenting new work in this interdisciplinary field, and a second on Critical Engagements, with scholars reflecting on the limits of human rights protection from a broad and diverse range of critical perspectives.

The Centre aims to enable research excellence in human rights generally. Our flagship Annual Research Methods Workshop, now in its third year, attracted 18 researchers from across the globe, together with a diverse faculty for masterclasses and discussion sessions on research methods and design. Our second annual academic workshop aimed to open up academic attention to Decolonising Global Migration Law. As is now our tradition, the event was co-organised by a second year PhD researcher, in this case Vera Wriedt, with an international advisory board. The workshop in June 2022 brought together an outstanding group of early career and senior researchers to the Centre, in the true spirit of our commitment to be a hub for human rights research.

As regards to teaching at the Hertie School, to the courses our team offers on International Law, the Global Refugee Regime and International Criminal Justice, we also added our first Professional Development Course on open-source human rights investigations. Our engagement with the Hertie student body encompassed active engagement with the Student Advisory Board, including their own events, and a conversation with Prof. Michaela Hailbronner on German constitutionalism and fundamental rights.

As a new academic year soon starts, we are also delighted to add a new major research project to our work. Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), this new research will focus on the contributions of UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies to the ever-dynamic horizons of international human rights law.

Co-directors’ welcome

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Basak Cali and Cathryn Costello
Co-directors, Centre for Fundamental Rights
Who we are

Academic Staff

Prof. Başak Çalı, PhD
Professor of International Law | Co-Director, Centre for Fundamental Rights

Prof. Cathryn Costello, DPhil (Oxon)
Professor of Fundamental Rights | Co-Director, Centre for Fundamental Rights

Mitali Agarwal
Research Associate, RefMig project, Centre for Fundamental Rights (2022 - 2023)

Juan Auz
PhD Researcher, Doctoral Programme in Governance 2019

Dr Grażyna Baranowska
MSCA Fellow | Postdoctoral Researcher, Centre for Fundamental Rights (2021 - 2023)

Dr Begüm Başdaş
Postdoctoral Researcher, Centre for Fundamental Rights (2021 - 2023)

Joseph Finnerty
PhD Researcher, Doctoral Programme in Governance 2021

Dr Alexandre Skander Galand
Postdoctoral Researcher, Centre for Fundamental Rights (2019 - 2022)

Dr Ivo Gruev
Postdoctoral Researcher, Centre for Fundamental Rights (2022 - 2023)

Francesca Palmiotto
Postdoctoral Researcher, AFAR project, Centre for Fundamental Rights (2021 - 2023)

Dr Emre Turkut
Postdoctoral Researcher, Centre for Fundamental Rights (2021 - 2023)

Dr Natalie Welfens
Postdoctoral Researcher, RefMig project, Centre for Fundamental Rights (2021 - 2023)

Vera Wriedt
PhD Researcher, Doctoral Programme in Governance 2020

Administration

Dr Michal Kramer
Centre Manager, Centre for Fundamental Rights

Ankita Goswami
Centre Assistant and Project Coordinator, Centre for Fundamental Rights

Johanne Vinter
Centre Assistant, Centre for Fundamental Rights
Affiliated Faculty

Prof. Richard Bellamy  
Visiting Professor at the Hertie School; Professor of Political Science at University College London

Prof. Joanna Bryson, PhD  
Professor of Ethics and Technology

Prof. Mark Dawson, PhD  
Professor of European Law and Governance

Prof. Dr Anita Gohdes  
Professor of International and Cyber Security

Prof. Dr Lukas Graf  
Assistant Professor of Educational Governance

Prof. Dr Anke Hassel  
Professor of Public Policy

Prof. Dr Klaus Hurrelmann  
Professor of Public Health and Education

Prof. Dr Michaela Kreyenfeld  
Professor of Sociology

Dr Socha MacLeod  
Adjunct Professor at the Hertie School; Associate Professor, University of Copenhagen

Prof. Johanna Mair, PhD  
Professor of Organization, Strategy and Leadership

Prof. Alina Mungiu-Pippidi, PhD  
Professor of Democracy Studies

Prof. Dr Simon Munzert  
Professor of Data Science and Public Policy

Dr Ronny Patz  
Adjunct Professor of International Political Economy at the Hertie School

Prof. Dr Mujahed Shaikh  
Professor of Health Governance

Prof. Dr Pierre Thielbörger  
Adjunct Professor at the Hertie school; Professor of German Public Law and International Law, at the Ruhr University Bochum

Visiting Fellows 2021-2022

Karin Åberg (University of Gothenburg), Visiting PhD Fellow  
Prof. Diego Acosta (University of Bristol), Visiting Fellow  
Lucie George (University of the Witwatersrand), Visiting PhD Fellow  
Diego Ginés (European University Institute), Visiting PhD Fellow  
Ishrat Hossain (Oxford University), Visiting PhD Fellow  
Dr Ian Madison (London School of Economics), Visiting Fellow  
Dr Lea Raible (University of Glasgow), Visiting Fellow  
Silvia Steininger (Max Planck Institute of Comparative Public Law and International Law & Goethe University Frankfurt), Visiting PhD Fellow  
Dr Ashwini Vasanthakumar (Queen’s Law School), Visiting Fellow

Student Advisory Board

Ana Carolina Fisher da Cunha (MIA)  
Alena Dietl (MPP)  
Ankita Goswami (MPP)  
Laura Hamilton (MIA)  
Cosima Jiyun Klatte (MIA)  
Marina Luna (MPP)  
Shruthi Naik (MPP)  
Malte Spielmann (MPP)  
Brian Weatherby (MPP)
Our events at a glance

- **Fundamental rights research colloquium**: 15 events, 449 participants
- **Book launches**: 5 events, 331 participants
- **Human Rights Film Festival Berlin**: 5 events, 280 participants
- **Research workshops**: 2 events, 66 participants
- **Student and Alumni outreach events**: 4 events, 221 participants
- **Research career development events**: 3 events, 57 participants
- **Total**: 42 events, 1443 participants

The Centre as a hub

Centre events included **116 speakers** from **94 institutions** worldwide, reaching a global audience of **over 1443 people**.
Our research

Leading research projects

RefMig: Refugees are migrants

Horizon 2020 individual award funded by the European Research Council (grant number 716968)
Prof. Cathryn Costello, Mitali Agrawal, Dr Jessica Breaugh, Dr Natalie Welfens

The ERC-funded ‘Refugee Mobility, Recognition and Rights’ (RefMig) project looks back on a busy academic year. The Organisations of Protection strand of the project is coming to an end, with the edited collection in production with Cambridge University Press. Co-edited by Megan Bradley, Cathryn Costello and Angela Sherwood, IOM Unbound: Obligations and Accountability of the International Organisation for Migration in an Era of Expansion brings together 15 chapters to examine a range of IOM activities in light of its legal and political obligations as an increasingly important international organisation. The Recognising Refugees strand continues to gather important new data and generate new findings on the key question of who counts as a refugee in the global refugee regime, with a team of external researchers preparing country profiles, and our survey of refugee status decision makers from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) being rolled out. This survey, prepared by Dr Jessica Breaugh, is one of the first to ask UNHCR staff about the refugee recognition process, including their perceptions of its fairness and efficiency. As well as continued data gathering, early findings have been published in articles (notably a piece on how refugees navigate the UNHCR’s bureaucracy by Derya Ozkul and Rita Jarrous in Third World Quarterly). As ever, a full account of our activities is available on the RefMig website: www.refmig.org.

RefMig has also supported numerous events to disseminate and discuss research findings. In cooperation with ASILE, RefMig organised a webinar on ‘The right to work of asylum seekers and refugees: Leveraging and litigating for effectiveness?’ (November 2021). RefMig principal investigator, Prof. Cathryn Costello, delivered a keynote on ‘The Impact of the Global Compact for Migration on the International Protection Regime’ at the PROTECT Expert Forum and commented on the situation at the Polish-Belarusian border and the situation of Ukrainian refugees in Europe.

There you will find our policy reports, including Natalie Welfens’ contribution to the study ‘Towards a Global Resettlement Alliance’; and our ‘RefMig meets the author’ video interview with Hilary Evans Cameron on her book ‘Refugee Law’s Fact-finding Crisis: Truth, Risk and the Wrong Mistake’.
Algorithmic fairness for asylum seekers and refugees (AFAR)

Funded by the Volkswagen Foundation within the programme “Challenges for Europe”
Prof. Cathryn Costello, Francesca Palmiotto

The Algorithmic Fairness for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (AFAR) project, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation’s Challenges for Europe programme, started in October 2021. Since its launch, the project has built a team of researchers across Europe, held its first stakeholder meeting workshop and developed the first two Working Packages of the project.

In spring 2022, the AFAR team welcomed two post-doctoral researchers - Francesca Palmiotto at the Hertie School and Dr William Hamilton Byrne at the University of Copenhagen, two PhD researchers at the University of Zagreb - Matija Kontak and Ana Kršinić. Elliot Ross joined the AFAR team in August 2022 as a PhD researcher at the Hertie School. They will be working on the legality and fairness of automated systems and related technologies.

Team members participated in various meetings, workshops and roundtables with stakeholders including civil society and scholars. On 1 April 2022, the AFAR project hosted its first stakeholder workshop with civil society members at the Centre for Fundamental Rights. At the workshop, Dr Ozkul presented her preliminary findings of mapping new technologies in immigration and asylum systems across Europe. Members of civil society organisations shared their ongoing work in the areas of technology and migration, and asylum governance. The workshop served as a platform for participants to contemplate existing practices, research methods, and potential areas for further collaboration. The workshop showcased Dr Ozkül’s mapping report, one of the first outputs of the AFAR project.

Moreover, the AFAR team is currently developing the “AFAR Curriculum”, setting up a Reading Group, and the “Newtech Online Case Law Digest” – a compendium of pertinent case law, where practices of new technologies have been challenged, in particular, under human rights and data protection law.

Missing migrants: Identifying and shaping obligations for protection

A Horizon 2020 award funded by the ERC under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions
Dr Grażyna Baranowska

In 2021-2022, the Missing Migrants project focused on investigating how international and EU law relate to missing migrants and their families. The results of the research generated three papers: First, an article focusing on evidencing concealed border practices before the European Court of Human Rights, under review with the European Convention on Human Rights Law Review. The article demonstrates that the European Court of Human Rights applies a high evidentiary threshold in such cases and argues for shifting the burden of proof when applicants are able to provide prima facie evidence of the contested practice. This paper was presented at the Centre’s Research Colloquium and at the Sommerkolloquium of the Netzwerk Migrationsrecht. The second paper, on evidencing pushback cases to the European Court of Human Rights, presented at the Law and Society Conference in July 2022, analyses the Court’s evidentiary regime for pushback cases and the challenges it poses to litigators. This co-authored and interdisciplinary paper shows that the Court’s case law does not exemplify the pushback realities at European borders because the Court gives the state a favourable position in the context of evidencing claims. The third paper assesses the advantages and limits of using the enforced disappearances framework for addressing missing migrants and border deaths.
Bad faith violations of human rights

Professor Başak Çali

This research project studies how the European Court of Human Rights establishes that state authorities violate the European Convention on Human Rights in bad faith in the context of authoritarian practices, and what consequences flow from such determinations doctrinally and as a matter of judgment compliance and impact.

In 2021-2022, the project examined how the European Court of Human Rights handles authoritarian strategies, the evolution of how standards of proof for bad faith human rights violations have evolved over time and whether finding bad faith violations of the European Convention on Human Rights makes a difference in the implementation of these human rights judgments. Project outputs were published, inter alia, with the European Convention on Human Rights Law Review, Oxford University Press, Edward Elgar and the Völkerrechtsblog. Updates on the research outputs of this project are available here.

Discriminatory borders

Professor Cathryn Costello

The Discriminatory Borders project is led by Dr Catherine Briddick of the Law School, University of Warwick, with Prof. Cathryn Costello. Discrimination has a long history in the context of migration control, unsurprising given that these controls were and remain involved in nationalist, colonial, and postcolonial projects of radicalised and gendered exclusion and subordination. Contemporary migration controls frequently disadvantage women, racial, and religious groups and those whose sexual orientation, gender-identity, or family status departs from the nuclear hetero-norm. This research project aims to understand when such disadvantageous treatment constitutes unlawful discrimination.

After launch events in 2020, the project has produced several outputs in the past academic year, notably two special issues. The first is a Symposium issue of AJIL Unbound (the online publication of the American Journal of International Law) co-edited by Prof. Cathryn Costello and Dr Catherine Briddick. Contributions include an essay by Prof. E. Tendayi Achiume (UCLA and UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance) on ‘Digital Racial Borders’, as well as an essay co-authored by Prof. Cathryn Costello (Hertie School, RSC) and Prof. Michelle Foster (University of Melbourne) entitled ‘Race Discrimination Effaced at the ICJ’.

The second publication is a Special Issue of the International Journal of Discrimination and Law that appeared in summer 2022, with contributions including an introductory essay by Dr Shreya Atrey, Dr Catherine Briddick, and Prof. Michelle Foster, and an article co-authored by Prof. Cathryn Costello and Prof. Michelle Foster, ‘(Some) refugees welcome: When is differentiating between refugees unlawful discrimination?’, clarifying when treating refugees differently is prohibited by race or nationality discrimination, a matter of great contemporary concern in light of the special treatment for those displaced from Ukraine. Other contributions examine the differentiation in treatment of refugees across Latin America, and discrimination in denationalisation practice.
Leading cases in UN human rights law
Professor Başak Çali, Dr Alexandre Skander Galand

In 2020, the Centre for Fundamental Rights launched a collaboration with the Oxford University Press International Human Rights Law (IHRL) Module and brought together a global team of experts to study and report on the case law of UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies.

In the academic year 2020-2021, the team, led by Prof. Başak Çali, Dr Alexander Skander Galand and Dr Aristi Volou, analysed salient case law developments in contemporary UN human rights law case law, covering issues ranging from the rights of persons with disabilities, discrimination and sexual violence against women, racial discrimination, enforced disappearances, economic and social rights, discrimination of same sex couples, non-refoulement, and the rights of undocumented migrant workers. Centre researchers Dr Grażyna Baranowska, Vera Wriedt, and Joseph Finnerty also contributed to this project. The team highlighted significant developments across contemporary United Nations Treaty Body case law on the website of the Centre, fulfilling a major dissemination function for what remains a lesser-known and understudied field of international human rights practice. Full reports for individual cases can be accessed via the Oxford University Press Oxford Reports on International Law database.

Individual research projects

In the making of new Europe: Embodied politics of borderlands and refugee resilience
Dr Begüm Başdaş

In the academic year 2021-2022, Dr Begüm Başdaş developed her research in political geography that focuses on authoritarianism and the governance of migration on the Greek archipelago of hotspots (Lesvos, Samos, Chios, Kos, Leros) as the EU’s external borderlands. Her research explores the impact of EU and Greek migration policies on local residents and how they perceive and experience the changes in their everyday spaces after the so called “refugee crisis” in 2015. She designed her qualitative research methodology that utilises interviews and participant observation in Lesvos Island between July and September 2022.

European legal responses to the COVID-19 pandemic
Dr Emre Turkut

This project aims to comparatively analyse the use of emergency powers in response to the COVID-19 pandemic focusing on three European case studies, namely Germany, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. Since its kick-off in September 2021, Dr Emre Turkut laid the groundwork of the research by mapping and assessing the relevant academic literature pertaining to state of emergency, derogations and COVID-19; examining the feasibility of global legal institutions (i.e. World Health Organization) and norms (i.e. International Health Regulations) regulating health emergencies in light of the COVID-19 pandemic; and comprehensively analysing the pandemic measures in selected countries by reference to the case law of international human rights bodies as well as relevant soft law instruments, and domestic and constitutional legal frameworks within these countries.
PhD project: The Inter-American Human Rights System and the climate crisis

Juan Auz

This research project examines the possibilities and drawbacks of litigating climate justice concerns at the Inter-American Human Rights System.

Against this backdrop, Auz has published two papers. The first one, published in the Journal of Human Rights and the Environment, investigates human rights-based climate litigation in Latin America. The second paper, published in the Melbourne Journal of International Law, interrogates the Inter-American Human Rights System’s limits to effectively protect human rights from climate change. Juan presented earlier versions of these papers at several academic conferences, including the 14th Melbourne Doctoral Forum on Legal Theory, “Rechtsstaat und Demokratie unter Druck” at the University of Vienna’s Law School, and “Climate Change and Law: Global to Local Legal and Policy Challenges” at the University of Wisconsin at Madison’s Law School.

This research contributes to further understanding human rights law’s role in tackling global challenges posed by the climate crisis.

PhD project: Postcolonial bordering and human rights law

Funded by the Hertie School and the Heinrich Böll Foundation
Vera Wriedt

This project examines border coloniality in the expulsion jurisprudence of the European and African regional human rights systems.

The dissection of key cases enables a critical appraisal of the applicable human rights provisions, uncovering the mechanisms underlying the denial of access to protection and highlighting transformative counterpoints. By analysing the jurisprudence through the prism of legal and post-colonial studies, this research brings together two pertinent but often disconnected bodies of literature and thereby contributes to filling a gap in legal analyses on migration.

In the first year, the research focused on the theoretical and methodological framework, moving on to case law analysis in the second year. Work-in-progress was presented in various fora, such as a CIVICA panel, the Centre’s Fundamental Rights Research Colloquium, the Doctoral Conference of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, and the Decolonizing Global Migration Law Workshop co-hosted by the Centre.
PhD project: Too little, too late?: The effectiveness of Article 18 ECHR in safeguarding pluralism in a democratic society

Joseph Finnerty

In the academic year 2021-2022, the work in this research project predominantly consisted of a detailed reading of the case law on Article 18 of the European Convention on Human Rights and associated literature. This forms part of the doctrinal work aimed at complimenting the socio-legal research on the response of the European Court of Human Rights to the populist and authoritarian practices across the Council of Europe. The result of this investigation was summarised in a paper which was submitted for review at the European Convention on Human Rights Law Review as part of Prof. Marie-Bénédicte Dembour’s Special Issue of Evidence under her ERC DISSECT project.

Joseph Finnerty presented a second paper in this project on the expansion of Article 18 at a workshop of the Academy for European Human Rights Protection, which took place in September 2022 at the University of Cologne.

Life of a PhD researcher at the Centre for Fundamental Rights

Juan Auz, Vera Wriedt and Joseph Finnerty

The Centre for Fundamental Rights provides a communitarian atmosphere for PhD candidates, hosting a diverse mix of researchers and projects. We work in an open plan office and often discuss different elements of our research with each other; providing complimentary, comparative, and critical input that helps us further develop our respective research initiatives.

PhD candidates at the Centre greatly benefit from career development and networking opportunities provided by the Centre. For example, we benefit from the opportunity to organise the Centre’s Research Colloquium and engage with academics at all stages of their careers with a diverse range of interdisciplinary expertise on fundamental rights through close engagement with their work in progress papers. In addition, involvement with the organisation of the colloquium facilitates networking opportunities. A tradition has emerged at the Centre enabling PhD candidates to organise an annual research conference, in cooperation with their supervisor, focusing on a topical issue within their own doctoral research. This provides, in particular, an invaluable insight into the process of reviewing and selecting abstracts. There are also recurring opportunities to engage with fellows visiting the Centre, doctoral candidates, scholars, and human rights practitioners. Overall, we appreciate the welcoming, supportive, and collaborative environment to conduct doctoral research that the Centre provides.
2021-2022 Highlights

Public Events

International law and the invasion of Ukraine

The Centre for Fundamental Rights led a public discussion at the Hertie School with a focus on what international laws apply to the invasion of Ukraine that commenced on 24 February 2022.

Centre Co-directors Başak Çali, Professor of International Law at the Hertie School, and Cathryn Costello, Professor of Fundamental Rights at the Hertie School, were joined on 14 March 2022 at the Hertie School and online by Tomer Broude, International Law Professor at Hebrew University, Alexandre Skander Galand, postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Fundamental Rights, Yulia Ioffe, Assistant Professor of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at University College London, and Prof. Ganna Yudkivska, judge at the European Court of Human Rights. The distinguished panel discussed which rights, prohibitions, and obligations are at stake in the context of Russia’s military aggression, including laws on the use of force, armed conflict, protection of refugees and internally displaced persons, the European Convention on Human Rights, civil and criminal accountability, and the use of international sanctions.

Reflections on Koblenz: Exercise of universal jurisdiction in Germany for crimes against humanity in Syria

How the Koblenz Higher Regional Court sentenced Anwar Raslan, a former Syrian intelligence officer, to life in prison for crimes against humanity and what this means for truth, justice, and accountability for Syrians, were the topics of a panel discussion at the Centre for Fundamental Rights on 29 March 2022, co-organised by the Centre and Human Rights Watch.

Wafa Mustafa, activist, journalist, and survivor of detention, Whitney-Martina Nosakhare, assistant counsel for the International Justice Program at Human Rights Watch, and Dr Anna Oehmichen, lawyer of several victims and joint plaintiffs before the Koblenz trial, took part in a conversation moderated by the Centre’s co-director, Prof. Başak Çali.

Panellists discussed what factors enabled this trial to take place in Koblenz in the first place, lessons learned from the German criminal justice system’s first-ever crimes against humanity trial under its universal jurisdiction laws, and the significance of this trial for broader demands for truth, justice, and accountability for Syrians, as the peaceful uprising against the president of Syria entered its 11th year of full-scale civil war with many states also involved directly or indirectly.

A recording of the event is available [here](#).

The panel agreed on the significance of this trial for victims and their families and stressed that this is the first-ever court judgment that confirms that the widespread and systematic nature of torture in state detention facilities in Syria amounts to crimes against humanity.
The 2022 Annual Distinguished Lecture at the Centre for Fundamental Rights: ‘Germany and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination’, delivered by Prof. Mehrdad Payandeh

The 2022 Annual Distinguished Lecture at the Centre for Fundamental Rights was delivered by Mehrdad Payandeh, Professor of International Law, European Union Law and Public Law at Bucerius Law School, Hamburg and a member of the UN Committee that monitors the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) across the globe.

Prof. Payandeh’s lecture focussed on Germany and the CERD. The lecture addressed the ways in which the CERD and the practice of its committee have real potential to add value to current debates taking place in Germany concerning racial discrimination. Prof. Payandeh’s lecture identified three key areas: 1) the CERD’s non-static definition of racial discrimination, focussing on social patterns and practices, 2) the focus that CERD brings to structural aspects of racial discrimination, which is largely absent in Germany’s understanding of racial discrimination, and 3) the emphasis placed on special measures to combat racial discrimination, which Germany has experienced with the domain of gender discrimination, but remains largely unaddressed in the domain of racial discrimination.

A recording of the lecture is available here.

Research Events

Research workshop ‘Decolonising global migration law’

This research workshop, hosted by the Centre for Fundamental Rights and the European University Institute, as part of the CIVICA university alliance, in collaboration with the African Centre for Migration and Society at the University of Witwatersrand and Temple University, brought together a diverse group of scholars at various career stages to discuss post- and decolonial critiques on global migration law.

The organising committee, composed of Prof. Tendayi Achiume (UCLA Law School and UN Special Rapporteur on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance), Prof. Diego Acosta (University of Bristol), Prof. Tobias Berger (Freie Universität Berlin), Prof. Cathryn Costello, (Hertie School, Centre for Fundamental Rights and Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford), Dr Nadine El-Enany (University of London), Prof. Neha Jain (European University Institute), Prof. Loren Landau (University of Oxford and African Centre for Migration and Society at the University of Witwatersrand), Prof. Jaya Ramji-Nogales (Temple University), Prof. Mohammad (Shahab) Shahabuddin (Birmingham Law School), Dr Ashwini Vasanthakumar (Queen’s Law School), and Vera Wriedt (Hertie School, Centre for Fundamental Rights), selected 15 papers from over 50 submissions. The presentations brought fresh insights into the history of global migration law and migration governance, exploring refugee law, labour migration, nationality, and statelessness. The participants discussed racial bordering, colonial continuities and discontinuities, as well as the possible remedies and responses for enduring colonial legacies and the inequalities of migration opportunities. Scholars from around the world were able to share their work in a constructive and supportive environment, as well as receive dedicated comments and feedback from senior academics and other participants.

The day after the workshop, activist and academic Joshua Kwesi Aikins (University of Kassel, Department of Development and Postcolonial Studies) met the group for a tour entitled, “The everyday presence of the colonial past: a decolonial city walk in Berlin’s African Quarter” (Afrikanisches Viertel”).
Third annual workshop on research methods in fundamental rights

This workshop for PhD and early career researchers on research methods in fundamental rights research was hosted for the third time by the Centre for Fundamental Rights in June 2022 at the Hertie School. The workshop aimed to provide doctoral and early-career legal researchers with opportunities to reflect on diverse doctrinal, empirical, and normative research methods in human rights research.

Over three days, 18 participants from 16 universities around the globe attended eight masterclasses, each focusing on a different research method, presented their own research and research methods and received feedback from faculty and participants. Participants were able to join the workshop on site at the Hertie School or online.

Here is what participants say about the workshop:

Alessandra Accogli, PhD at University College Dublin (participated on site)

“Attending the Research Methods Workshop at the Hertie School Centre for Fundamental Rights was an extremely enriching experience. The workshop is aimed at making you reflect on the potential shortcomings of your methodology. The workshop program, is such that you can learn each method extensively through very useful readings and videos. The way of dealing with the topics is straightforward, which makes it accessible and clear. Finally, each PhD has the opportunity to present their project and receive in-depth feedback. Highly recommended!”

Ahmet Gümüşbaş, PhD Candidate, University of Leuven (participated online)

“The workshop provided an excellent opportunity for me to gain a thorough understanding of various research methods and to reflect on my own PhD project. While the stimulating lectures and discussions with other researchers broadened my methodological perspective, the constructive feedback I received on my socio-legal research was very useful and rewarding. I am truly grateful for this opportunity, which I would strongly recommend to any legal researcher looking to improve their research skills.”

Tatiana Cernicova-Dragomir, PhD Candidate, West University of Timișoara (participated on site)

“The Workshop on Research Methods in Fundamental Rights was an eye-opening experience for me. I had the privilege of meeting amazing professors and learning in-depth about methods and methodology in relation to human rights research. I believe the programme is intense, but extremely rewarding and absolutely unforgettable. The workshop is very well rounded, the curriculum is masterfully designed, and overall it was a great opportunity to learn, in a hands-on and applied manner. I very much appreciated the thoroughly selected and assigned readings, the lectures and interactions during the workshop. I am very grateful to have participated in the workshop and to have had the chance to connect with the professors, as well as with other PhD students who share interest in this field of study.”

Nicola Sharman, Doctoral Researcher, University of Eastern Finland (participated on site)

“Taking part in the workshop has enabled me to significantly build my knowledge and understanding of the variety of methodological choices available to me as a legal researcher, how these may both shape and serve my research questions, and how clarity in my methods and methodology will allow me to better communicate with other scholars. The masterclasses were excellent, and with the benefit of the supportive and constructive feedback received on my existing plan from both experts and peers, I’ve been able to refine my approach and feel far more confident in the scope and direction of my project. I know the workshop will benefit me well beyond my doctorate and would wholeheartedly recommend it to any researchers working in the human rights field.”

During the masterclasses, renowned faculty provided reflections on research methods and presented how these were applied in key pieces of their own research. In order to prepare for the discussions, participants received assigned readings as well as video recorded presentations by faculty for each class.
The Visiting Fellowship Programme at the Centre encourages scholars, practitioners and doctoral researchers in the field of fundamental rights to visit the Centre for Fundamental Rights to pursue their own work and to interact with the Hertie School’s faculty, researchers, and students. In the academic year 2021-2022, the Centre hosted nine visiting fellows:

Diego Acosta, Professor of European and Migration Law at the University of Bristol:

“During June 2022, I spent a period of time as a visiting fellow at the Centre for Fundamental Rights at Hertie School. In order to pursue that visit, I obtained funding from the DAAD. My experience at the Centre was absolutely wonderful. I had the chance to present my work but also to engage in numerous workshops, conferences, and weekly discussions with various colleagues at all levels, from Professors to postdocs, and PhD students. The Centre offered me an office to work in and also access to all its facilities. The number of people working in my own area (migration law) has increased over the last few years and includes excellent scholars working on cutting-edge research. This made my stay a very fruitful one and something that I could recommend anyone to do.”

Ishrat Hossain, Phil Candidate in International Relations at Oxford University:

“I have been a visiting PhD fellow at the Centre for Fundamental Rights during the spring term of 2022. I was sponsored by Prof. Cathryn Costello at the Centre. I spent an eventful and engaging fellowship tenure and thoroughly enjoyed the research and intellectual exchanges with wonderfully friendly colleagues during my visit.

I benefitted greatly from the detailed and constructive feedback I received on my post-doctoral research proposal on refugee social network. A number of important advice from colleagues made me rethink my theoretical framing (social network/refugee mobility), locating the research in appropriate literature as well as how to pitch the project for potential funding.

I had a wonderful mentor in Prof. Costello. She connected me with several scholars working in similar area, provided guidance on navigating European academic landscape and took an active interest in my research and gave detailed feedback on my research proposal.

I am grateful to the Centre for the Fellowship and hope to maintain the important professional network I established in future.”

Diego Ginés (European University Institute), Lucie George (University of the Witwatersrand), Dr Ashwini Vasanthakumar (Queen’s Law School), Karin Åberg (University of Gothenburg), Prof. Diego Acosta (University of Bristol), Ishrat Hossain (Oxford University), Dr Ian Madison (London School of Economics), Dr Lea Raible (University of Glasgow), and Silvia Steininger (Max Planck Institute of Comparative Public Law and International Law and Goethe University Frankfurt).

Reflections of our visiting fellows on their stay at the Centre:

Diego Acosta, Professor of European and Migration Law at the University of Bristol:

“The visit had a major impact on my PhD studies. I began my PhD in autumn 2019, a few months before the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, even though I conduct research in international law, I have not been able to attend any conferences or do any other visits outside of Sweden prior to this one. This has been quite limiting, both with regards to inspiration and influences. It has also made me lack confidence about my PhD project, as I have not been certain of how it will be received outside of the Nordic context that I work in. At the Centre, I got to present my PhD project at a seminar and received a lot of feedback that was supportive as well as constructive. In addition, I was free to attend the other weekly seminars at the Centre, that concerned a variety of fascinating topics. It was a new and positive experience to be a part of a Centre, with a small but tight-knit team where most members would attend most of the seminars.

Moreover, I got to attend two workshops at the Centre. The first concerned decolonising approaches to migration law, and the second research methods in human rights. These workshops were both perfect for my dissertation and most likely saved me months of work. In particular, the workshop on research methods was very informative and clarifying, and I will recommend it to other PhD students doing human rights research. Finally, this visit gave me the opportunity to meet several other researchers with similar research interests, both at the Centre and at the workshops. This has allowed me to begin to build a social network as a junior researcher, and I am very grateful for the opportunity to do this visit.”
“The visiting fellowship at the Centre was for me an opportunity to hear from scholars working on issues closely aligned to my own interests yet using approaches and perspectives that were often unfamiliar—particularly for someone without a background in legal studies. Not only was this inspiring in its own right; having the opportunity to present my own research project to an interdisciplinary collection of researchers was profoundly useful in thinking through my ideas and approach. These seminars were remarkably supportive spaces. Research invariably involves having one’s ideas challenged, and rightly so. But rarer is receiving encouragement along with insightful feedback.

The chance to participate in research seminars and workshops, and to meet an entirely new network of researchers working on similar issues, was enormously valuable. As I begin fieldwork on my new project, I do so with the confidence and motivation I gained from the fellowship.”

Dr Ashwini Vasanthakumar, Queen’s National Scholar in Legal & Political Philosophy, and Associate Professor at the Queen’s Law School:

“I was a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Fundamental Rights from October 2021-July 2022. I had wanted to spend my sabbatical at the Centre because of its multidisciplinary approach on and expertise in issues relating to migration, rights, and international law. My aims with my research visit were to make progress on a project examining legitimacy in border control processes and a project on victims’ duties to resist their oppression, with migrant resistance as an example.

In addition to providing a supportive base for research activities, the Centre provided an intellectually vibrant and collegial community in which I was able to collaborate. I co-wrote a contribution to a debate series with Prof. Cathryn Costello; the Centre co-hosted, with the Refugee Studies Centre, a book panel on my monograph; I chaired a documentary screening and post-screening discussion with Centre Fellows and external experts; and was able to partake in a workshop on decolonising global migration law.”

Dr Ian Madison, LSE Fellow and Co-Director of the International Development and Humanitarian Emergencies programme at the London School of Economics:

Career development

Seminars

This series of seminars aims to support research career development at the Hertie School.

The Centre hosted three online events in this series on 3.11.2021, 17.11.2021, and 16.2.2022, bringing together recipients of major postdoctoral research grants, namely, Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoctoral fellowships, European Research Council grants, and DFG postdoctoral research grants. Participants shared their experiences and advice on how to successfully apply for a research grant.

Professional Development Courses at the Hertie School

During the Fall Semester 2021, the Centre for Fundamental Rights, in collaboration with Human Rights Watch, offered a professional development course on open source investigation for human rights. This course covered the history, ethics, method, and best practices associated with open source research. Through a hands-on approach, students taking this course learned how open source information - from videos of rights violations to satellite images of environmental degradation, to eyewitness accounts disseminated on social media - can be incorporated into documentation and investigation processes for human rights advocacy and accountability.
Events organised by our Student Advisory Board

The Student Advisory Board for the Centre for Fundamental Rights is an independent student body that acts as a link between the Centre and Hertie School students. It organises student-led events and provides advice on programming, events and other activities hosted by the Centre. The board has representation from first and second-year students in the MIA and MPP programmes.

Activity highlights in the 2021-2022 academic year include thesis talks and a human rights networking event, as well as a co-hosted “Fundamental Rights in Practice” event with Prof. Michaela Hailbronner (University of Giessen), and Centre Co-director, Prof. Başak Çali, entitled “Fellow travellers on diverging paths? German constitutional law and human rights”.

The series of master thesis talks hosted Hertie School alumna, who have written their outstanding master theses on a human rights-related topic, to present their thesis and share their experience on the writing process. This initiative is aimed at supporting current students, interested in human rights topics, in their research processes, as well as to provide visibility to the human rights research conducted by Hertie alumna in the past. The Board hosted two events in this series on 10.11.2021 and 1.12.2021. In February 2022, the Board hosted a “Professional Perspectives Networking Event”, where Hertie School students, who are interested in following a career in human rights, had the opportunity to have an informal exchange with representatives of ten human rights organisations. This online event attracted more than 80 participants.

Teaching

The academic staff at the Centre for Fundamental Rights offer courses on a range of topics engaging with human rights law and policy to masters students at the Hertie School.

International law, Prof. Başak Çali & Prof. Cathryn Costello

This course aims to provide a foundational basis in international law for Master of International Affairs students. It covers the structure and the sources of international law and operation in selected substantive areas covering international security, migration, the global economy, and the climate crisis. The role played by human rights in these fields is a cross cutting theme across the course.

Pursuing international criminal justice in a complex world, Dr Alexandre Skander Galand

This course is about the successes and failures as well as the challenges and critiques of international criminal justice. It surveys the complex legal, political, philosophical, historical, military, gendered, and cultural issues that have emerged in the fight against impunity for the perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and aggression. This course aims to equip students to approach international criminal justice from diverse and critical perspectives, as well as to enable them to assess if and how justice and accountability for international crimes should be pursued.

The global refugee regime: Law, ethics and politics, Prof. Cathryn Costello

This course is an interdisciplinary take on the global refugee regime, meaning the institutions, norms (both legal and non-legal), and institutional practices that determine who is (and who is not) regarded as a refugee, their rights, practices that shape and restrict their rights, including their rights to flee, migrate, enjoy ‘protection’, and find a ‘solution’ to their refugeehood. The aim is to equip students with knowledge and understanding of the global refugee regime and debates about whether it is just.
Berlin as a human rights classroom

Being located in Berlin, the Centre aims to learn about and engage with Berlin as a human rights classroom.

As part of an ongoing collaboration with the Human Rights Film Festival Berlin, the Centre was a partner at the 2021 Film Forum - a public venue for dialogue on topics related to the Human Rights Film Festival. On 20 September 2021, the opening day of the Film Forum, which was dedicated to the topic of “European Future”, the Centre hosted a panel discussion entitled “Europe’s deadly borders: Seeking protection in bordered Europe”, aiming to explain why it is so dangerous for those who need protection to come to Europe and seek it, and to explore the consequences of the EU’s border policies. Prof. Cathryn Costello chaired the discussion with Salam Aldeen, founder and CEO of the non-profit organisation Team Humanity, Dr Grażyna Baranowska, Marie Curie fellow at the Centre, and Meron Estefanos, human rights activist, journalist, radio presenter, co-founder of the International Commission on Eritrean Refugees, and director of the Eritrean Initiative on Eritrean Refugees in Stockholm, Sweden.

A recording of the discussion is available here.

Researchers from the Centre also took part in film talks throughout the festival in October 2021. Dr Grażyna Baranowska participated in the post-screening film talk on the prize-winning documentary ‘Shadow Game’, which follows the attempts of children and teenagers to cross European borders in search of a better future and their numerous encounters with Europe’s violent border and mobility regime. Joseph Finnerty participated in panel discussions on the rights of indigenous peoples, following the showing of ‘Eatnameamet: Our silent struggle’, a documentary revealing the Finnish government’s assimilation and colonisation policy towards the Sámi people.

During this academic year, the Centre’s team explored Berlin through the prism of its darkest chapters:

On 3 November 2021, the Centre’s team met for a city tour, led by Mohamad, tour guide at “Refugee Voices”. Mohamad comes from a small city outside Damascus, Syria and has been living in Berlin as a refugee since 2015. This tour, through places of historical human rights significance in Berlin, informed the participants of both the darkest chapters of Berlin’s human rights history and of Syria, including the arrival of refugees from Syria to Berlin.

On 11 June 2022, the Centre’s team, together with the participants of the research workshop on decolonising global migration law, joined activist and academic Joshua Kwesi Aikins (University of Kassel, Department of Development and Post-colonial Studies) for a tour entitled, ‘The everyday presence of the colonial past: a decolonial city walk in Berlin’s African Quarter’ (Afrikanisches Viertel). This tour combined the history behind the street names, that celebrate Germany’s colonisers and colonies across Africa, with insights into the contemporary politics of renaming, remembrance, and reparation.

In April 2022, to engage with the public critical discourse in Berlin, the Centre’s team visited the exhibition on Karl Marx and Capitalism at the Deutsches Historisches Museum.
Academic record

Publications:


• Auz J, ‘“So, This is Permanence”: The Inter-American Human Rights System as a Liminal Space for Climate Justice’ (2021) 22 Melbourne Journal of International Law 187.


• Çalı B and Hatas K, ‘History as an Afterthought: The (Re)Discovery of Article 18 in the Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights’ in Helmut Philipp Aust and Esra Demir-Gürsel (eds), The European Court of Human Rights: Current Challenges in Historical and Comparative Perspective (Edward Elgar 2021).

• Costello C and Foster M, ‘(Some) refugees welcome: When is differentiating between refugees unlawful discrimination?’ (2022) 22 International Journal of Discrimination and the Law 244.


• Costello C and Foster M, ‘Race Discrimination Effaced at The International Court of Justice’ (2021) 115 AJIL Unbound 339.


• Turkut E, ‘On the Collateral Impact of Turkey’s Authoritarian Turn: Re-Securitization of the Kurdish Issue and the Kurds’ Struggle for Minority Recognition and Self-Determination’ (2021) 1 The Commentaries 97.


Selected presentations:

Juan Auz, Activism and Environmental Law, PIEL 2022 Conference- Unchaining Environmental Law (Online)

Juan Auz, Argumentos y patrones del litigio climático en América Latina y el Caribe, Seminario web “Lanzamiento de la Plataforma de Litigio Climático para América Latina y el Caribe” (Online)

Juan Auz, Climate finance and human rights after COP26 decisions, Reflexiones y Claves sobre la COP26 (Online)

Juan Auz, Climate Remedies in Latin America: A Political Ecology of Non-Compliance, Rechtstaat und Demokratie unter Druck (Vienna)

Juan Auz, Decolonial and Class Perspectives of the Climate Crisis? Legal Aspects, Kritjur Kongress (Hamburg)

Juan Auz, Effectiveness of Remedies in a Changing Climate: An Inter-American Human Rights System Prognosis, 2022 Global Meeting on Law & Society (Lisbon)

Juan Auz, Litigio Climático basado en Derechos: Una Cartografía Latinoamericana, I Congresso Internacional de Direito Ecológico e Climático na América Latina (Online)

Juan Auz, ‘So, This Is Permanence’: The Inter-American Human Rights System as a Liminal Space for Climate Justice, The 14th Melbourne Doctoral Forum on Legal Theory (Online)

Juan Auz, The Political Ecology of Climate Remedies: An Inter-American Human Rights System Prognosis, Climate Change and Law: Global to Local legal and policy challenges (Madison-Wisconsin), ECPR Join Sessions (Edinburgh), Congreso Híbrido LASA2022: Polarización socioambiental y rivalidad entre grandes potencias (Online), and Courts as an Arena for Societal Change (Leiden)

Grażyna Baranowska, Disappeared Migrants and Refugees, Seventh Geneva for Human Rights Expert seminar on enforced disappearances (Online)

Grażyna Baranowska, Exposing Covert Border Enforcement: Why Prima Facie Evidence should Lead the ECHR to Shift the Burden of Proof from the Applicant to the State, Netzwerk Migrationsrecht (Online)

Grażyna Baranowska, Human rights of migrants: missing migrants in Europe and the role of businesses, Business and Human Rights (IDK and CHREN, Business) (Nuremberg)

Grażyna Baranowska, Legal obligation regarding missing migrants, Centre for Women and Gender Research (CWGR), University of Warsaw (Online)

Grażyna Baranowska, Memory laws, Introduction to Transitional Justice, Geneva Academy (Online)

Grażyna Baranowska, Rights of families of disappeared persons: how international bodies address the needs of families of disappeared persons in Europe, Book Presentation: Rights of families of disappeared persons: how international bodies address the needs of families of disappeared persons in Europe (Online)

Grażyna Baranowska, 2021 “migration crisis” on the Polish-Belarusian border, The Power of Law. Legal Integration in the EU from a Spatial Perspective, University of Amsterdam (Online)


Başak Çalı, Bad Faith Violations of the European Convention on Human Rights, Centre for Constitutional Studies Conference on Universal Standards of Human Rights and Their Implementation (Online)

Başak Çalı, Customary International Law, TRICI-Law Workshop, University of Groningen (Online)

Başak Çalı, Human rights research and policy interface, RARE Meeting (Budapest)

Başak Çalı, Implementation of human rights judgments concerning the policing, Brandenburg Police Academy (Oranienburg)

Başak Çalı, Practice Conceptions of Human Rights and the Legal Practices of the European Court of Human Rights, The European Court of Human Rights and the Theoretical Crisis of Human Rights, University of Glasgow (Glasgow/Online)

Başak Çalı, The European Court of Human Rights and the Shadow of Rule of Law Backsliding, Centre for Constitutional Studies Conference on Universal Standards of Human Rights and Their implementation (Berlin)

Başak Çalı, Turkey’s Withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention, Inter-American Court of Human Rights (San José)

Cathryn Costello, Can the Global Compact for Migration Strengthen the International Protection Regime?, Invited Keynote Lecture, H2020 Project Protect Expert Forum (Online)

Cathryn Costello and Jessica Breau, Keynote Workshop Presentation, Flucht vor Recht – Flucht ins Recht? Empirisch-interdisziplinäre Asylrechtsforschung am Schiaputz Gericht, Keynote workshop presentation, Humboldt University (Berlin)


Cathryn Costello, The end of the refugee crisis in the EU? At what price? Presentation at Panel discussion hosted by Yale Law School European Law Association in association with ReMiG (Online)


Cathryn Costello, Panel on refugee preference matching, Global PeaceTech Hub at the School of Transnational Governance, EUI (Online)

Alexandre Skander Galand, To Defer or Revise: The UN Treaty Bodies and cases previously submitted to regional human rights courts, Centre for Fundamental Rights Research Events, Hertie School (Berlin)

Ivo Gruev, Contesting ‘Gender’ in Bulgarian and Romanian Constitutionalism, Global Meeting on Law and Society ‘Rage, Reckoning and Remedy’, Law and Society Association (Budapest)

Ivo Gruev, Fighting ‘Gender Ideology’ with Christian Orthodoxy before the Bulgarian Constitutional Court, ICON-S Annual Conference; Panel 45: ‘Feminist Judging at a Time of Gender Equality Backlash and Resistance in Central and Eastern Europe (Online)

Ivo Gruev, Roundtable ‘Meeting the Challenges Faced by Feminist Judgments Projects’, Global Meeting on Law and Society ‘Rage, Reckoning and Remedy’, LSA (Law and Society Association); Roundtable (Lisbon)
Ivo Gruev and Elena Brodeala, Constitutional Debates on ‘Gender’ and ‘Gender Ideology’ in Romania and Bulgaria, ICON-S Annual Conference; Panel 59: ‘Women, Gender and Constitutionalism in Central and Eastern Europe’ (Online)

Ivo Gruev and Ruzha Smilova, Feminists Judgments of the Bulgarian Constitutional Court, Feminist Judgments in Central and Eastern Europe (London)

Francesca Palmiotto, Detecting Deep Fakes in criminal proceedings: opportunities and challenges of forensic AI, 4th Webinar on the use of Artificial Intelligence in the justice field: Forensic AI in e-Evidence (Online)

Emre Turkut, The rule of law, human rights, and European responses to the COVID-19 pandemic: an inquiry into emergency powers in times of global health emergencies, Re:Constitution Fellow Talks Series (Online)

Emre Turkut, The Venice Commission and Rule of Law Backsliding in Turkey, Hungary and Poland, The Council of Europe’s responses to the decay of the rule of law and human rights protections (Online)

Emre Turkut, Turkish Constitutional Court during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Constitutionalism and Covid-19: Broadening the Lens (Rome)

Natalie Welfens, Promising Victimhood. Paradoxical Requirements in Refugee Resettlement, International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Conference, Nashville, USA (Online)

Natalie Welfens, Resettlement, complementary pathways and the Global Compact on Refugee (Online)

Natalie Welfens, The Chain of Refugee Admission; Practicing Companionship: Feminist Reflections on Symmetrical Research, European International Studies Association - Annual Conference (Online)

Natalie Welfens, The EU’s approach to Refugee Resettlement, (De) Legitimizing Global Migration Control (Amsterdam)

Natalie Welfens and Saskia Bonjour, Families first? The Mobilization of Familie Norms in Refugee Resettlement, Royal Geographical Society Annual Conference (London/Online)

Natalie Welfens, The Politics of Vulnerability of Refugee Admission under the EU Turkey Agreement, Centre for European Policy Studies (Online)

Natalie Welfens and Lilly Pijneburg Muller, Any road will take you there. Fieldwork challenges in secretive security surroundings, European International Studies Association - Early Career Workshop (Online)
Our funding

The research and engagement activities at the Centre for Fundamental Rights are funded through core funding provided by the Hertie School and third-party research funding. The following research projects at the Centre were funded in the academic year 2021-2022:

**RefMig - Refugees Are Migrants**: Horizon 2020 award funded by the European Research Council. Grant amount: 1,499,611€ from January 2018 – December 2023. Grant amount at the Hertie School: 749,000€.

**AFAR - Algorithmic Fairness for Asylum Seekers and Refugees**, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation in the frame of its “Challenges for Europe” programme. Grant amount: 1,496,900€ from October 2021 – September 2025. Grant amount at the Hertie School: 353,300 €

**MIRO - Missing Migrants**: Identifying and Shaping Obligations for Protection: European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.