

**Zentrum für Internationale Studien – Center for International Studies**



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Center for International Studies

***International Law Seminar winter term 2021/2022***

**“International Human Rights Law in a Nutshell: A Podcast Seminar”**

**Seminar content:**

During the current rise of authoritarianism some might think that human rights law has lost influence and relevance in world politics. Nevertheless, challenges offer opportunities. Accordingly, we try to connect the core concepts of human rights law with current research and recent developments in world politics. This seminar will challenge students in an academic as well as a creative way. Students will – instead of writing a seminar paper – produce a podcast as a group project. The topics aim at broadening the knowledge of human rights law through current affairs as well as ongoing academic debates.

After choosing a topic for the podcast, students will design a concept and write a podcast script. Thereby, students will also have to combine the broad topics with current events and research. In a second step students consult with their advisor but primarily with other students and critique each other’s podcast scripts. Each student will individually write a critique of at least two other scripts. Subsequently, students will produce the podcast, which will be 10-15 minutes long. This includes the technical arrangements as well as finding an interview partner from academia or practice and recording the podcast as well as subsequent post-production. Students will present the outcome in a final session, which will be guided by listening to the podcasts and discussions.

Throughout the seminar, the student’s advisors will provide them with information and advice regarding software and hardware needed. Podcasts of exceptional quality might be published in the ZIS Podcast Series, in collaboration with Völkerrechtsblog and DGVN, Landesverband Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt und Thüringen e.V.

**Seminar procedure:**

***Preliminary meeting (11.10.2021, 16.40, 6.DS)****:*Introduction to the seminar/seminar procedure, allocation of topics, formation of groups depending on the number of students attending.

***Introductory session (22.11.2021, 14.50, 5.DS):*** Introducing Guidelines on how to create a successful podcast;Introduction to podcast-related technology;Introduction to designing a podcast concept and a script

***Working phases student groups:***

1. podcast planning and scripting

2. consultation phase (with advisors and among each other)

3. production phase

***Final presentations and seminar:*** ***28. and 29.01.2022***

**Examination:**

1. Podcast script (25%)

2. Final presentation (25%)

3. Produced Podcast (50%)

**General Topics/ Introduction**

1. Historical Origins of Human Rights
2. Human Rights Theory
3. Sources of Human Rights in International Law
4. Universality of Human Rights
5. (Postcolonial) Criticism of Human Rights

**Substantive Human Rights**

1. Civil and Political Rights (First Generation)
2. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Second Generation)
3. Collective Human Rights, Right to Self-determination, Environmental Human Rights, Right to Intergenerational Equity (Third Generation)
4. Digital Human Rights as Fourth Generation?
5. Rights of Children
6. Rights of Women
7. Rights of Persons with Disabilities

**The United Nation’s Human Rights System**

1. UN Human Right Bodies
2. UN-Charter Based Monitoring of Human Rights
3. Reservations to UN Human Right Treaties

**Regional Human Right Systems**

1. European System of Protection of Human Rights
2. Arab System of Protection of Human Rights
3. African System of Protection of Human Rights
4. Inter-American System of Protection of Human Rights

**Special Application of Human Rights**

1. Human Rights Obligations of Private Actors
2. Human Rights and Terrorism
3. Human Rights in Armed Conflicts
4. Humanitarian Intervention and R2P
5. Human Rights in the Context of Migration
6. Human Rights and Climate Crisis