

Teaching international human rights law

- in Times of Normative Contestation

International Conference 8-10 June 2026

Organised by

Prof. Dr. Peter Hilpold, University of Innsbruck & Pavia – Faculty of Law
in cooperation with AIANI
Austrian-Israeli Academic Network Innsbruck

Conference Directors

Prof. Dr. Peter Hilpold, Prof. Dr. Ivo Hajnal, Vera Dietl BA MA MA,
Prof. Giuseppe Nesi, Prof. Stefania Baroncelli

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Monday, 8 June 2026

PANEL I Teaching Human Rights, Criminal Law and Transitional Justice

09:00 | AULA

Opening Remarks

Peter Hilpold & Ivo Hajnal - University of Innsbruck

09:30 | AULA | Chair: Peter Hilpold, University of Innsbruck & Pavia

Ruti Teitel, Ernst C Stiefel Professor of Comparative Law, New York Law School and Affiliated Faculty New York University MAIR

"Teaching Transitional Justice in an Era of Urgent Need for Responsibility and Reconciliation."

Gerry Simpson, London School of Economics

"Teaching and Thinking Crimes Against Humanity."

11:00 | AULA | Chair: Ivo Hajnal, University of Innsbruck

Ziv Bohrer, Bar-Ilan University

"Teaching International Criminal Law in a Time of [Armed] Conflict."

Shelly Aviv Yeini, Reichman University

"Teaching Humanitarian Law - To Students Affected by War."

12:30 | Uni Lounge | Lunch Break 

PANEL II Methods and Contexts of Human Rights Teaching

14:30 | AULA | Chair: Peter Hilpold, University of Innsbruck & Pavia

Lucas Lixinski, UNSW Sydney & Ayla do Vale Alves, Adelaide University

"Can the Teacher's Tools Dismantle the Teacher's House? Balancing Emancipation and Imperialism in English-Language Human Rights Textbooks."

Sana Khan, University of Karachi Pakistan

"Teaching international Human Rights Law in Islamic countries: Methods, Aims, further Prospects."

Christina Binder, Universität der Bundeswehr, München

"Universities as human rights agents."

Gerd Oberleitner, University of Graz

"International Law as Performance: the Power and Pitfalls of Experiential Human Rights Learning."

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Tuesday, 9 June 2026

PANEL III Teaching Human Rights in Times of Normative Contestation

09:00 | AULA | Chair: Giuseppe Nesi, *University of Trento*

Marco Pertile, *University of Trento*

"Axiological Neutrality and Teaching Human Rights: Revisiting Max Weber in the Age of Normative Contestation."

Antonino Ali, *University of Trento*

"Teaching International Law in Times of Bulk Data Collection: Challenges for Human Rights Education."

10:30 | Uni Lounge | Coffee Break



11:00 | AULA | Chair: Peter Hilpold, *University of Innsbruck & Pavia*

Jan Wouters, *KU Leuven*

"Teaching about the EU and Human Rights."

12:00 | Uni Lounge | Lunch Break



PANEL IV Defending Academic Freedom

13:30 | AULA | Chair: Vera Dietl, *University of Innsbruck*

Dirk Rupnow, *University of Innsbruck*

Mordechai Kremnitzer, *Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

"Populism and Academic Freedom."

Paolo Piva, *University of Padua*

"Academic Freedom and EU Law"

15:30 | Uni Lounge | Coffee Break



16:00 | AULA | Chair: Peter Hilpold, *University of Innsbruck & Pavia*

Giulio Bartolini, *University of Roma 3*

"Academic Freedom: The Role of the International Law Teacher."

Matthias Kettemann, *University of Innsbruck*

"Academic Freedom and AI"

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Wednesday, 10 June 2026

13:00 | Uni Lounge | Networking Lunch



PANEL V Teaching International Minority Rights

14:30 | AULA | Chair: Stefania Baroncelli, *University of Bolzano* / Roberta Medda-Windischer, *Eurac Research*
– *Institute for Minority Rights*

Jennifer-Jackson Preece, *London School of Economics*

"From "Separate" Identities to Shared Stories: Exploring Integration and Diversity through Student-Produced Videos."

Petra Roter, *University of Ljubljana*

"Teaching minority rights to gain different perspectives."

Jens Woelk, *University of Trento*

"Teaching the Law of Diversity."

Andrea Carlà & Mattia Zeba, *Eurac, Bozen-Bolzano*

"Playing for Rights: Exploring Game-Based Approaches for Teaching Minority Rights"

16:00 | Uni Lounge | Coffee Break



PANEL VI Closing Roundtable

16:30 | AULA | Chair: Peter Hilpold, *University of Innsbruck & Pavia*

SPECIAL EVENING LECTURE

18:00 | HS3 | Chair: Ivo Hajnal, *University of Innsbruck*

Ziv Bohrer, *Bar-Ilan University*

"The centuries-long [pre-1945] forgotten history of International Criminal Law."