

Research programme *Effective Protection of Fundamental Rights in a Pluralist World*

Annual report 2020



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Annual report 2020

**Research programme *Effective Protection of
Fundamental Rights in a Pluralist World***



**Universiteit
Leiden**
Leiden Law School

Leiden University, March 2021
Editors: Janine Ubink, Nina van Capelleveen

Introduction

Dear reader,

We are pleased to present the 2020 Annual report of the research programme Effective Protection of Fundamental Rights in a Pluralist World (EPFR) of Leiden University, Faculty of Law.

The EPFR programme explores the dynamics of institutional and normative diversity regarding fundamental rights protection against the backdrop of the socio-cultural, political, and economic pluralism that is a prominent feature of today's world, both globally and locally. It investigates what opportunities and threats flow from the existence of this diversity for the effective protection of fundamental rights.

The EPFR research group consists of researchers from a variety of (sub)disciplinary backgrounds and from across departments and institutes of the faculty of law: Department of Constitutional and Administrative law; eLaw, Center for Law and Digital Technologies; Department of Child Law; Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance and Society; Department of European Law; Grotius Centre for

International legal studies; Institute of Immigration Law; Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology.

We hope this annual report will give you a good impression of this thriving community of researchers and their research activities in 2020. In addition to an overview of the scholarly output in this year we are pleased to present you a selection of significant events and highlights of 2020, including inaugural lectures, PhD defenses and conferences and seminars we organized.



Janine Ubink
EPFR Coordinator

Contents

Selection of highlights 5

Inaugural lectures and PhD defenses..... 17

Selection of Conferences and Seminars..... 21

Highlighted publications..... 24

Miscellaneous 31

Scholarly publications 33

Selection of highlights

Eduard Fosch-Villaronga receives the COVR Award



Dr. Eduard Fosch-Villaronga, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Post-doctoral Researcher at eLaw, received the COVR award, a 60K seed grant to work on LIAISON, a project aiming to link robot development and policymaking to reduce the complexity in robot legal compliance.

COVR stands for “being safe around collaborative and versatile robots in shared spaces” and is an H2020 COVR Project is a European project that aims to reduce the complexity in safety certifying cobots significantly. In this respect, the project has developed the COVR Toolkit. This online tool guides developers on their legal compliance process, from helping them find relevant standards/directives/protocols to guide them on how to do a risk assessment.

Since robots widely differ in embodiment, capabilities, context of use, intended target users, and many regulations may already apply to them, having tools such as the COVR Toolkit can be very helpful. However, new robot applications may not fit into existing robot categories, and legislation (private and public policy making) might be outdated and include confusing types.

In the context of H2020 COVR, LIAISON investigates to what extent we could use compliance tools as data generators for policymakers to unravel an optimal regulatory framing for existing and emerging robot technologies. The goal is to link robot development and policymaking to reduce the complexity in robot legal compliance.

In this respect, LIAISON will conceive a practical way to extract compliance and technical knowledge from compliance tools that help developers comply with the legislation, such as the COVR toolkit. The goal is to direct this knowledge to policymakers to help them work out an adequate regulatory framing (including change, revise, or reinterpret) that reflect the existing and emerging robot landscape.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/10/eduard-fosch-villaronga-receives-the-covr-award>

Julia Sloth-Nielsen received A-rating from South African National Research Foundation



Professor Julia Sloth-Nielsen has received an A-rating from the National Research Foundation in South Africa, where she holds a Chair in Public Law at the University of the Western Cape. An A-rating is meant for ‘researchers who are unequivocally recognized

by their peers as leading international scholars in their field for the high quality and impact of their recent research outputs'. Professor Julia Sloth-Nielsen is the first A-rated woman researcher at University of the Western Cape and the first A-rated researcher in the University of the Western Cape Law Faculty. Professor Sloth-Nielsen also holds the Chair in Children's Rights in the Developing World at Leiden University.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/12/julia-sloth-nielsen-received-a-rating-from-south-african-national-research-foundation>

Aleydis Nissen wins the European Public Law Organization Thesis Prize



The postdoc received the 2020 Thesis Prize for her PhD research on the role of the EU Member States in regulating and remedying corporate human rights violations.

Since 1994, the European Scientific Council of the European Public Law Organization awards the Prize on an annual basis, to the researcher who wrote the best doctoral or postdoctoral public law thesis characterized by its European dimension. The competition is open to researchers under the age of 40 who are from the European Union or conduct their work in a research centre in the European Union.

The winning thesis investigates corporations from developing

and emerging states. 'I discovered that the existing literature on 'business and human rights' focuses almost exclusively on corporations based in economically developed countries', says Nissen. 'Therefore, I decided to write my PhD thesis on companies that are born and bred in developing and emerging countries. Think, for example, of the South Korean electronics company LG or rose farms that are owned by the Kenyan elite. My thesis assesses the role of the European Union and its Member States to regulate and remedy human right violations by such corporations.'

This thesis makes an important contribution to the literature. 'Many stakeholders fear that 'our' corporations would suffer a competitive disadvantage if they are the only ones that have to bear the costs associated with mandatory obligations and litigation risks', Nissen notes.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/09/aleydis-nissen-wins-the-european-public-law-organization-thesis-prize>

Meijers prize for Eduard Fosch-Villaronga

Eduard Fosch-Villaronga has won the annual Meijers prize within the EPFR research programme. The Meijers prizes are awarded each year to the best published article from each faculty research programme. Eduard Fosch-Villaronga received the award for his article "Sex care robots. Exploring the potential use of sexual robot technologies for disabled and elder care". Director of Research Stefaan Van den Bogaert announced the winners during the online New Year's event broadcast from the Old Observatory. The winners receive a certificate and a sum of money to spend on their research.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2021/01/meijers-prizes-and-thesis-prizes-awarded-at-new-years-event>



Van Vollenhoven Institute and Just Future Consortium receive large grant from Ministry of Foreign Affairs

After a year of proposal writing, rewriting and organizing, Van Vollenhoven Institute, Dutch development organization Cordaid and various partners from the Global North and South have been granted 50 M by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Just Future Consortium aims to promote more inclusive, constructive and legitimate power relations for justice seekers in Afghanistan, Burundi, DRC, South Sudan, Mali, and Niger.

During the first two years of the programme Prof. Janine Ubink and Dr. Bernardo Almeida will focus on effective justice pathways for the protection of people's land rights and prevention of conflict. In collaboration with local organizations, they will document and analyse specific practical land justice interventions in South Sudan and Afghanistan. Besides its impact at local level, this research also aims to facilitate a dialogue between regional and global partners focusing on SDG16+ (peaceful, just and

inclusive societies) and other organizations centering their programming and advocacy on land management and land conflicts.



Marie Curie funding for Simone van der Hof



Simone van der Hof has been awarded funding for a Marie Curie Initial Training (PhD) Network for NETHATE. NETHATE will bring together an interdisciplinary team of world-leading researchers to tackle an ambitious & relevant research project on the nature of hate.

The NETHATE Consortium, an international research and training project, will be funded by the Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme of the European Commission.

The vision for the NETHATE is to bring together an interdisciplinary team of world-leading European researchers to tackle a highly ambitious and relevant research project on the nature of hate. It will also examine the dynamics of its spread in both offline and online fora, mitigation and

reconciliation strategies, and the impact on victims and bystanders.

The research and training programme will deliver doctoral training of 15 Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) and high-impact research outputs. The complementary research skills and training expertise within this inter-sectoral ETN will ensure that the ESRs trained will become Europe's next generation of researchers, teachers and practitioners in understanding the roots and impacts of hate, as well as mitigation strategies, which will support the development of a sustainable democratic culture across the EU.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/11/marie-curie-funding-for-simone-van-der-hof>

COST Action grant for Bart Custers

The European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) has awarded a network grant for the project GoodBrother. On behalf of Leiden University, Bart Custers, professor of Law & Data Science and director of eLaw, the Center for Law and Digital Technologies, contributed to writing this proposal.

This project is focused on Active and Assisted Living (AAL), improving the health, quality of life, and well-being of older, impaired and frail people. AAL-systems use different sensors to monitor the environment and its dwellers. Cameras and microphones allow for data collection to improve care and well-being, but can also be intrusive for assisted persons and their caregivers. The GoodBrother project is aimed at

increasing the awareness of the ethical, legal, and privacy issues associated with audio and video monitoring of vulnerable groups and proposing privacy-aware solutions for assisted living.

A COST action is a grant for creating a research network. These networks offer an open space for collaboration among scientists across Europe (and beyond) and thereby give impetus to research advancements and innovation. This grant allows researchers at eLaw to visit researchers abroad, organize conferences and symposiums, and host guest researchers.

The project will start in September 2020 and will last four years. In the project consortium, universities and research institutes of almost all EU member states are represented, as well as some other partner countries. Dr. Eduard Fosch Villaronga and prof. Bart Custers will represent the Netherlands in the Management Committee.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/05/cost-action-grant-for-bart-custers>



Stephanie Rap receives 444 Interdisciplinary Activity Grant



The Young Academy Leiden (YAL) has awarded an 444 Interdisciplinary Activity Grant to Anna van Duijvenvoorde (Associate Professor at the Developmental and Educational Psychology unit of the Institute of Psychology) and Stephanie Rap (Assistant Professor in children's rights at the Department of Child Law) to organise a half-day seminar on young adults, neuroscience and the law.

Currently, the neuroscience of adolescence is increasingly finding its way into the legal and policy discussion. An important conclusion from brain studies is that major changes in brain anatomy and activity go on for much longer in development than was previously thought. These research findings have led to debate about how society decides to treat young people who have come in conflict with the law.

The half-day seminar aims to build on these interdisciplinary questions, contribute to the societal debate, and set a research agenda by discussing key topics regarding the legal position and treatment of youngsters. The seminar will bring together academic experts from different disciplinary backgrounds ((juvenile) criminal law, criminology, children's rights, developmental psychology, etc.) with societal organisations and legal professionals. The meeting aims to achieve to cross-fertilisation between disciplines and between academia and practice.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/04/anna-van-duijvenvoorde-en-stephanie-rap-receive-grant>

Ingrid Leijten hosts podcasts series on fundamental rights with a 444 Interdisciplinary Activity Grant

In February 2020, the Young Academy Leiden (YAL) awarded a 444 Interdisciplinary Activity Grant to Ingrid Leijten (Associate Professor at the Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law) to enable her to start a podcast series on fundamental rights. Through interviews with scholars and experts, Leijten aimed at making a podcast that would form an interesting and engaging source of information on what fundamental rights are and what they (can) do. More precisely, the three aims of her podcast were as follows:

1. Providing accessible information on fundamental rights and how they work
2. Making research findings and expert opinions available to a broader audience
3. Contributing to a fairer and better image of fundamental rights

The podcast *Ons goed recht. Grondrechten hier en nu* took off in May 2020. Over the course of 2020, Leijten has published 15 interviews with renowned scholars and experts about different aspects of fundamental rights and the role these rights play in different fields. Besides, she published a trailer, a wrap up of the first ten episodes as well as some concluding remarks as she is preparing for a new season of podcasting.

The interviews with professors as well as attorneys and persons working for the government, addressed, eg, theoretical aspects as well as the role of rights in local government, administrative law, migration issues and in relation to gender justice. The podcast is available for free on various podcast apps and episodes were downloaded around 8000 times. The audience consists of a broader group of persons who (professionally) come across or are interested in fundamental rights and are curious to learn more about them in a low-threshold way.



Leiden University conducts research into impact of coronavirus crisis on judicial system

Leiden University, together with Utrecht University and Radboud University in Nijmegen, has received a research



grant from the Covid-19 programme of ZonMw, the Dutch organisation for research into health care.

As a result of measures to combat the coronavirus, many court proceedings were unable to proceed. The most urgent cases were held virtually, which led to innovations in digital communication which can provide lessons for the future.

The research will analyse the issues that have arisen during the coronacrisis in relation to the justice system in the Netherlands, the measures taken and the impact of these on the fundamental rights of vulnerable litigants, in particular, and their faith in the justice system. It aims to contribute to the further development of the institution of the justice system, and to reinforcing the fundamental rights of these vulnerable litigants in times of crisis and beyond.

The part of the research being conducted in Leiden (supervised by Professor Miranda Boone) focuses on the development of the qualitative research part of the project and the part of the final report that deals with the consequences for the criminal justice system. Mariëlle Bruning, Professor of Children's Law, is also involved in the project on behalf of Leiden University.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/09/leiden-university-conducts-research-into-impact-of-coronavirus-crisis-on-judicial-system>

Leiden Law School and University of Stirling investigate migrant homelessness within 'crimmigration' systems



This collaborative study examines the major challenges facing migrant groups and the implications of deep social exclusion for policy and practice.

In her previous research, the principal investigator on the project 'Choice, constraint and conditional citizenship: Analysing migrant homelessness within 'crimmigration' systems' researcher Dr Regina C. Serpa has aimed to understand policy, practice and how migrants negotiate the demands presented by homelessness and destitution. As a Fellow of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Dr Serpa will develop doctoral research, exploring the intersections between migration and housing need, based on research conducted in North America and Europe.

The Fellowship will incorporate new research to investigate the social citizenship of migrant groups, based on re-interpreting data collected from two case studies (in Massachusetts and Scotland). The new research commencing 2021 includes an additional case study in Leiden, focusing on the intersections between immigration and criminal justice in the Netherlands. The research involves a collaboration with a leading Foucauldian scholar (Dr Kim McKee from the University of Stirling) and an international expert in socio-legal studies (Prof. Maartje van der Woude from Leiden Law School).

Specifically, the study will advance our understanding of emerging 'crimmigration' systems (the convergence of immigration and criminal law) and will enable a comparison of practices between ostensibly social democratic and neoliberal welfare regimes.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/09/leiden-law-school-and-university-of-stirling-investigate-migrant-homelessness-within-crimmigration-systems>

Consortium building corona test application providing maximum privacy

A consortium called 'uNLock' has started developing an open source, non-profit application that will facilitate the verification of corona tests while ensuring maximum security of users.

Currently the open consortium includes the Rabobank, CMS, TNO, Ledger Leopard (a major occupational health services provider), EY, IBM, Delft University of Technology, Dutch Blockchain Coalition and Leiden University.

Leiden University is contributing to the consortium by providing knowledge from three faculties: Leiden Law School (privacy, human rights, data protection), Humanities (ethics concerning technology and use of data) and Medicine (link to the LUMC Covid19 Radar app). Dean of Leiden Law School, Professor Joanne van der Leun, is a member of the consortium core team.

This collaboration between legal scholars and technologists will deliver well thought out solutions, Bart Custers, Professor of Law and Data Science and involved in the project on behalf

of the University, says: 'Effectiveness and attention to privacy are optimally balanced in this project. By including privacy considerations in the design, we can guarantee maximum privacy.' An example of bringing together law, ethics and technology.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/04/consortium-building-corona-test-application-providing-maximum-privacy>



eLaw awarded EDPB framework contract for research into implications of GDPR



Dr. Karolina La Fors, post-doc researcher at eLaw - Center for Law and Digital Technologies at Leiden University, together with a consortium consisting of Milieu Consulting (leader of the consortium), the Free University of Amsterdam (CLI-Centre for Law and Internet), the University of

Leuven (Centre for IT and IP Law) and the University of Namur (Research Centre in Information, Law and Society-CRIDS) has won a framework contract commissioned by the EDPB for four years. The Framework contract has the title:

EDP/2019/02 - Studies on the implication of several GDPR provisions, case law and other laws having an impact on data protection.

Winning this contract facilitates interested staff members of eLaw to conduct research on several case studies assigned by the EDPB. In the first year of the project 7 case studies will be carried out by the cooperation of eLaw's scholars and the members of the four universities and Milieu Consulting.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/01/4-year-european-data-protection-board-edpb-framework-contract-to-elaws-research-on-the-implications-of-the-gdpr>

Strengthening Legal Education in Eastern Indonesia (SLEEI)

Legal education is key to promoting the rule of law. Graduates from law faculties should have developed the capacity to solve legal problems in a way that promotes legal certainty and justice. In Eastern Indonesia, universities are struggling to provide legal education that meets this challenge. The Strengthening Legal Education in Eastern Indonesia project is now supporting universities to implement changes in what they teach to law students and how it is taught.

From June 2019 to the end of 2021 the SLEEI project collaborates with the University of Mataram, Wira Wacana Christian University in Waingapu, Artha Wacana Christian University in Kupang and the Pattimura University in Ambon to create and implement a new framework for course development and teaching methods.

Expertise and coaching are provided by the Van Vollenhoven

Institute of Leiden University (Adriaan Bedner and Jacqueline Vel) and the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) in collaboration with Jentera Law School (Jakarta) and the Law Faculty of Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta. The project is funded by the Orange Knowledge Programme of Nuffic.

The project focusses on Eastern Indonesia, where few law faculties have had the opportunity for international cooperation. A short survey among students and lecturers of the aforementioned Eastern Indonesian universities indicated that various aspects of the current legal education in those four universities could be improved. Areas of improvement include course content updates, higher responsiveness to local context, and greater attention to improving legal analysis and writing skills.

Using a ‘training of trainers’ approach, Indonesian and Dutch experts provide staff training focused on improving legal education and facilitating joint-learning processes, employing a bottom-up and tailor-made approach. The results are not only applied within the selected universities, but also will be shared to reach and benefit as wide an audience as possible.



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Global citizenship research launched in cooperation with NCDO



At the initiative of the National Commission for International Cooperation and Sustainable Development (NCDO), Leiden University has commenced research into global citizenship.

Chrisje Sandelowsky-Bosman commenced this PhD research project on global citizenship in September 2020. Her research is funded by NCDO and Leiden University. Her supervisors at Leiden University are Professor Ton Liefwaard, vice-dean of Leiden Law School and UNICEF Chair in Children’s Rights, and Professor Judi Mesman, dean of Leiden University College and professor of the interdisciplinary study of societal challenges at the Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs.

NCDO was established in 1970 and conducted research on behalf of Dutch citizens, companies and governments on

the role of the Netherlands in sustainable development. The Commission ended its activities in 2017 and in finalising its work it provides funding to various projects of which the PhD research into global citizenship at Leiden University is one. Chrisje will examine the development of global citizenship in science since 1970 and the arising responsibilities incumbent on the Netherlands, and also how global citizenship is experienced in various settings in practice in the Netherlands. The research aims to improve insights into the field in which global citizenship should operate, especially in light of the UN Sustainable Development Agenda.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/10/global-citizenship-research-launched-in-cooperation-with-ncdo>

PhD research on the digitalization of administrative law and sustainable justice



In March 2020 Nikkie Vosters started as a PhD candidate at eLaw - Center for Law and Digital Technologies. She studied Media & Culture and Law at the University of Amsterdam. After completing her studies she spent a number of years working at Viacom International developing content strategies for digital and linear platforms. At e-Law, Nikki is taking part in the project Conflict Resolution Institutions on the topic of digitalization of administrative law and sustainable justice.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/staffmembers/nikkie-vosters#tab-2>

PhD research on online price discrimination



As of March 2020, Kimia Heidary joined the Department of Business Studies at Leiden Law school to commence her PhD research on online price discrimination. Before coming to Leiden University, Kimia obtained her Bachelor in Law at Utrecht University (2016), as well as a Master in Persuasive Communication Science at the University of Amsterdam (2017) and a Master in Private Law (specialization in Intellectual Property Law) at Utrecht University (2019).

In her research, Kimia Heidary addresses the practice of online price discrimination. The title of her PhD project is “An empirical legal examination of online price discrimination, justice, and regulation”. The research aims to investigate how online price discrimination is perceived by consumers and regulatory actors, and what its implications are for consumer behavior and market regulation.

This PhD is conducted in Empirical Legal Studies, involving quantitative and qualitative methodologies of research. With a background in law and communication science, Kimia Heidary alternates disciplines to answer her research questions and analyze the practical implications of (regulating) online price discrimination in our society.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/staffmembers/kimia-heidary#tab-2>

UN Committee on the Rights of the Child follows third party intervention

Upon invitation by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, a large group of academics have submitted a third party intervention in a case against France. On 2 November, the Committee decided to follow the intervention's main conclusion.

The third party intervention was prepared by Professor Ton Liefwaard and Chrisje Sandelowsky-Bosman, together with Dr Gamze Erdem Türkelli (University of Antwerp), Professor Wouter Vandenhole (University of Antwerp) and Dr Meda Couzens (Western Sydney University, former PhD researcher Leiden University).

The core of the submission revolves around the issue of extraterritorial jurisdiction in relation to the protection of children in Northern Syria. The submission has been endorsed by 26 leading legal and other academics from various parts of the world. On 2 November, the Committee on the Rights of the Child published its decision in which it concluded that the children who find themselves in an extremely vulnerable situation in Northern Syria fall within the jurisdiction of France. The complaints on behalf of these children are therefore admissible.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/11/un-committee-on-the-rights-of-the-child-follows-third-party-intervention>



Rick Lawson elected member of the Management Board of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency



In November 2020 former dean Rick Lawson, professor of European Human Rights Law, was elected member of the Management Board of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency in Vienna. He was nominated by the Dutch Government following an open selection procedure.

In the same procedure dr. Kathalijne Buitenweg, Member of Parliament until March 2021, was elected member as alternate member of the Management Board.

The Fundamental Rights Agency was founded by the EU as an independent body in 2007. Its main task is to provide the EU institutions and Member States with independent, evidence-based policy advice on fundamental rights, and to raise rights awareness at the EU, national and local level. To this end the FRA collects and analyses law and data, issues publications and organizes events. The Agency has a staff of about 100 fte from 23 different nationalities that includes legal experts, political and social scientists, statisticians, and communication specialists; it has a budget of appr. €3 million.

The Management Board is responsible for the definition of the Agency's priorities, the establishment of the budget and for monitoring the Agency's operation. The Board consists of people with experience in the management of public or

private sector organisations and knowledge in the field of fundamental rights. To this end the MB is composed of one independent person appointed by each of the 27 Member States of the EU, as well as an independent person appointed by the Council of Europe and two representatives of the European Commission. The MB meets in Vienna.

One of the tasks of the MB is to appoint the members of the Scientific committee – which currently has Prof. Nico Schrijver (public international law) as one of its members.

Former PhD-student becomes Deputy Minister and starts Socio-Legal Consulting Think Tank

Dr. Surya Tjandra, a former PhD student of the Van Vollenhoven Institute has been appointed Deputy Minister of Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning / National Land Agency of Indonesia. To make optimal use of his academic knowledge and network, the deputy minister has initiated an informal advisory group that meets regularly to discuss land developments in Indonesia. The group, which includes several researchers from VVI, is organized by Stichting Socio-Legal Consulting. The topics in discussions are currently about customary land tenure in general, and the mapping of people's social units and their relationships to land in Papua in particular.



Inaugural lectures and PhD defenses

Hoko Horii: 'Child marriage as a choice : rethinking agency in international human rights'



On 18 March 2020 Hoko Horii defended her thesis 'Child marriage as a choice: rethinking agency in international human rights'. Child marriage has become an increasingly important topic on the international human rights and development agenda. Many organisations

are calling for a ban, but what problem would such a ban solve?

Over the past decade, the United Nations among others has campaigned to end child marriage, regarding it as a human rights violation. 'Currently an increasing amount of investment, time and energy is being spent on ending child marriage', researcher Hoko Horii tells. 'Thus, it is a crucial time to reinvestigate and reconstruct the current approach to child marriage, to ensure that it is effective.'

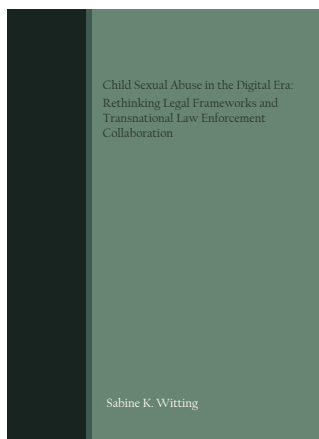
In her research, Horii examined two central questions. Firstly, why do children marry? And secondly, how does this practice both inform and is treated within the multiple competing normative frameworks that are in place?

The analysis and discussions throughout her research reveal the multi-layered reasons why children marry. 'Child marriage, defined as 'any formal marriage or informal union where one or both of the parties are under 18 years of age', is considered always forced, assuming that children are not capable of consenting to marriage. Suppressive social structures are important to consider, but, according to this dissertation, many children decide to marry for love, desire, to belong to the community, and for new opportunities and hopes.' Also, child marriage often occurs for practical reasons. 'For young people, child marriage is a socially accepted solution to unplanned teenage pregnancy. In a society where abortion is illegal and birth outside of wedlock is a problem for practical reasons, child marriage can be a way for adolescents to manage their romantic and sexual relationships by accommodating modern social conditions within the customary and more communitarian normative structure.'

The current child marriage framework is constructed on a partial understanding of why children marry, Horii concludes. The focus on banning child marriage will not solve the underlying social problems, such as lack of tools and knowledge about reproductive health. Consequently, the framework is currently more constraining rather than liberating.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/03/child-marriage-does-not-always-occur-by-force>

Sabine Witting: 'Child Sexual Abuse in the Digital Era: Rethinking Legal Frameworks and Transnational Law Enforcement Collaboration'



On 11 June 2020, Sabine Witting defended her thesis 'Child Sexual Abuse in the Digital Era: Rethinking Legal Frameworks and Transnational Law Enforcement Collaboration'. The doctoral research was supervised by Prof. J.J. Sloth-Nielsen and Prof. S. van der Hof.

With children constituting one-third of Internet users worldwide, this realm offers endless opportunities to learn, connect, and interact. At the same time, the Internet facilitates child sexual abuse on a large scale – through the production, dissemination, and accessing of child sexual abuse material.

This study aims to critically analyse emerging aspects of the international and national regulation, investigation and prosecution of online child sexual abuse material from a child-rights and rule-of-law-based approach. It investigates emerging aspects of substantive and procedural law which have been little explored in the past, zooming in on complex constitutional aspects by applying a comparative legal analysis approach with a strong focus on the Global South as well as interdisciplinary legal research. In order to solve these complex legal issues, the answer lies in the identification and subsequent navigation of a variety of dichotomies that govern the discourse on online child sexual abuse material.

The international and national regulation, investigation and prosecution of emerging aspects of online child sexual abuse material hence require constant identification, reflection and calibration of competing discourses, with a view to developing a cyber-specific yet victim-sensitive response that upholds the rule of law and takes a child-centred approach.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/research/research-output/law/child-sexual-abuse-in-the-digital-era-rethinking-legal-frameworks-and-transnational-law-enforcement-collaboration>

Santy Kouwagam: 'How lawyers win land conflicts for corporations: Legal Strategy and its influence on the Rule of Law in Indonesia'



On 23 June 2020 Santy Kouwagam defended her thesis 'How lawyers win land conflicts for corporations: Legal Strategy and its influence on the Rule of Law in Indonesia'. Law firms play a dubious role in important land disputes in Indonesia. They act as fixers and settle conflicts to the advantage of large companies. PhD candidate Santy Kouwagam studied their *modus operandi*.

Conflicts about land rights are commonplace in Indonesia. By no means all land is meticulously registered at the land registry, but in other cases several people claim ownership of the same piece of land. With such confusion, numerous smaller and larger disputes are inevitable and these range

from a conflict between two neighbours to a mega company wanting to turn a contested piece of land into a palm oil plantation or shopping centre.

In almost all cases, big businesses emerge as the victor, Kouwagam discovered during her research. ‘They have the financial means to call in the help of large law firms. Family lawyers, who provide complete legal assistance to one family business, are particularly successful. They work as fixers: they do everything within their power to solve your problem.’

The problem, says Kouwagam, is that corruption in Indonesia works differently. Rather than transferring bribes, fixers befriend the children of politicians, judges and police officers and butter them up with gifts and facilities. Kouwagam: ‘And to a certain extent that’s just how a traditional society works.’ Good connections are everything in Indonesia.

How can Indonesia break free of this vicious circle of corruption? If you ask Kouwagam, this should start with lawyers themselves. They should be united to establish a force of discipline, but they cannot do this alone. Judges need to be involved as well. They have to not only reach a verdict but also clearly justify this verdict. In their decisions they should explain how they have understood the facts and why they came to the judgments. They have to be able to tell a story to the reader of their judgments. A better explanation of their reasoning could significantly improve the jurisprudence about corruption cases.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/06/advocatenbureaus-en>

Bernardo Ribeiro de Almeida: ‘Building land tenure systems: The political, legal, and institutional struggles of Timor-Leste’



On 24 September 2020, Bernardo Ribeiro de Almeida defended his thesis ‘Building land tenure systems: the political, legal, and institutional struggles of Timor-Leste’. The doctoral research was supervised by Prof. A.W. Bedner. Co-supervisor was Dr. C.I.M. Jacobs.

Land tenure issues in Timor-Leste are complex and deeply shaped by the nation’s history. Taking an insider’s perspective, this socio-legal research studies the development of the Timorese formal land tenure system from independence in 2002 to 2018.

It shows how political, legal, and administrative decisions on land administration are made, what and who influences them, which problems and dilemmas politicians and state officials face, and how the formal land tenure system works in practice. It does so through the investigation of five analytical themes: political environment, lawmaking, legal framework, institutional framework, and social relationships and practices.

The result is a portrait of a young nation grappling with the enormous task of creating a land tenure system that can address the needs of its citizens in the wake of centuries of socio-political tumult and huge fluctuations in resources,

while seeking to find its place on the world stage as a new nation. By studying the development of the Timorese formal land tenure system, this book engages in the larger academic debate about the role of state systems in addressing – but also causing or aggravating – various social problems, such as insecurity, poverty, inequality, destruction of nature, and cultural and social estrangement.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/research/research-output/law/building-land-tenure-systems-the-political-legal-and-institutional-struggles-of-timor-leste>

Joseph Boakye: ‘Understanding illegal logging in Ghana: A socio-legal study on (non) compliance with logging regulations’



On 14 October 2020 Joseph Boakye defended his thesis: ‘Understanding illegal logging in Ghana: A socio-legal study on (non)compliance with logging regulations’. The doctoral research was supervised by Prof. J.M. Otto and Prof. J.M. Ubink.

The study on regulatory compliance in the logging sector in Ghana, attempts to understand how and why the key logging actors in the Ghana’s timber industry (i.e., licensed logging firms and chainsaw operators) respond to regulations in the sector and the extent to which the Forestry Commission, the main state regulatory institution, enforces these regulations to ensure compliance.

For licensed logging firms, the study found that economic gains and societal pressures including demands from the local communities for developmental assistance and illegal activities of chainsaw operators influenced them to violation. Contrary, deterrence from third party non-state actors, particularly the EU market actors and forest certification bodies produced better compliance than the state sanctions. Also, for some firms, it was their religious beliefs including hope in eternal life, rather than deterrence from the state or non-state actors, that motivated them to comply. Regarding chainsaw operators, the violating activity was basically poverty-driven in the sense that it provides them with livelihood support. It also accounts for the bulk of lumber consumed locally and attracts low sanctions when violators are caught. Again, the study found that, the general socio-politico-economic context of the regulated actors and regulators exhibits traits that undermined compliance and enforcement efforts.

All these demonstrate that enhancing compliance is a complex phenomenon and not just a straight forward calculation of increasing sanctions to achieve a higher level of compliance, as deterrence theory would like us to believe. More than that, compliance has other dimensions as well including social and normative motivations, and capacity to comply. What is important then for policymakers and practitioners to enhance compliance among various regulated actors is to understand how different actors respond to different compliance motivations under various socio-politico-economic and cultural settings.

Understanding illegal logging in Ghana: A socio-legal study on (non)compliance with logging regulations | Scholarly Publications ([universiteitleiden.nl](https://www.universiteitleiden.nl))

Selection of Conferences and Seminars

Workshop ‘Law, Rights, and Governance in Africa. A look to the Future’

On 28 and 29 January 2020 the workshop ‘Law, Rights, and Governance in Africa. A look to the Future’ was held at Leiden Law School.

This two-day workshop was organised by Annelien Bouland (Van Vollenhoven Institute) together with Danse de Bondt (Tilburg University), Tanja Hendriks (Edinburgh University) and Thandiwe Matthews (International Institute for Social Studies). The workshop was funded through LeidenASA as part of the Africa 2020 year. Invited early career researchers came together to present and discuss their individual research projects. Keynotes were given by Professor Thomas Bierschenk and Professor Elisio Macamo. Professor Janine Ubink (Van Vollenhoven Institute) hosted a seminar on ‘Custom, Capitalism, and Electoral Politics’.



Participants came from various European universities, as well as from Benin and China. The participants and organisers look back on a great two days that allowed them to receive feedback on their work, as well as discuss shared themes of interest in an intimate setting. The presentations were clustered in panels on ‘Rights, Law and Development’, ‘Law, Economics and Business Networks’ and ‘Governance and Mobility’. The last panel was chaired by Carolien Jacobs (Van Vollenhoven Institute).

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/01/workshop-law-rights-and-governance-in-africa>

eLaw students organize lecture by the European Data Protection Supervisor

On Tuesday 11 February, the European Data Protection Supervisor, Mr. Wojciech Wiewiórowski, visited eLaw, - center for Law and Digital Technologies at Leiden Law School to give a lecture on facial recognition systems and data protection in Europe.

The European Data Protection Supervisor is the independent data protection authority of the European Union. Its primary mission is (1) to ensure European institutions and bodies respect the right to privacy and data protection when they process the personal information of individuals; and (2) to advise the institutions on all matters relating to the processing of personal data. Mr. Wojciech Wiewiórowski was appointed as EDPS on 5 December 2019 for a term of

five years. Before his appointment, he served as Assistant European Data Protection Supervisor from 2014 to 2019 and as Inspector General for the Protection of Personal Data at the Polish Data Protection Authority, a position which he had held since 2010. He was also Vice-Chair of the Working Party Article 29 Group.

The evening lecture was organized at the initiative of the students of the Advanced LL.M. Law and Digital Technologies. In his lecture, Mr. Wiewiórowski highlighted the importance of the debate on the ethics of facial recognition technology, encouraging academics to research long-term effects of these systems on individual human beings, on society, as well as societal values of the EU such as democracy. After the lecture, Mr. Wiewiórowski answered questions from the audience, raising concerns on the direction facial recognition technology might take if it continues to be deployed more widely.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/02/the-european-data-protection-supervisor-about-personal-data-protection-in-europe>



Ingrid Leijten organizes international workshop on Human Rights Overreach



On 1-2 July 2020, together with Professor Anuscheh Farahat (Friedrich Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg) Ingrid Leijten (Associate Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law) organized an international workshop on the topic of human rights overreach (online). Human rights are everywhere, but can there also be too many human rights? Can there be an ‘inflation’ of this concept hampering human rights’ effectiveness? How does this issue tie in with the current backlash against human rights?

The call for papers had received broad response resulting in a programme covering topics such as climate protection, the concept of vulnerability, social rights for migrants and armed conflicts, all to be discussed from the perspective of the use and effectiveness of human rights. Thanks to the presenters, engaged listeners and ‘special guest’ Professor John Tasioulas (University of Oxford), the workshop involved two days full of interesting perspectives and insightful discussions, that will hopefully form the start of a more thorough examination of the topic of potential overreach, with the aim of effectuating human rights to the greatest extent possible. Currently, Farahat and Leijten are working on a special issue with a renowned human rights journal in which the contributions to the workshop will be published.

Successful research colloquium of EPFR research programme

On Monday 14 December the yearly research colloquium of the research programme ‘Effective Protection of Fundamental Rights in a Pluralist World’ (EPFR) took place.

This year’s research colloquium was entitled “EPFR: Working at a Radical, Digital, Sustainable Kitchen”. Researchers from all the corners of the research programme presented their current research projects. Nikki Vosters (PhD candidate at eLaw - Center for Law and Digital Technologies) gave a presentation about her research on digitalising administrative law to improve sustainable justice. Nina van Capelleveen (PhD candidate at the department of Child Law) presented her PhD research in a presentation entitled ‘Tackling radicalisation of children: balancing fundamental rights, child protection and public safety’. The very first ‘labour rights’ complaint under an EU Free Trade Agreement was discussed by Aleydis Nissen (postdoc at the Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology). And in the last presentation of the afternoon ‘Democratizing Global Food Security Governance: Rights and Representation in the Committee on World Food Security’, Matthew Canfield (Assistant Professor of Law and Society & Law and Development in the Van Vollenhoven Institute) presented his research about food security.

The presentations led to sufficient food for thought and a lively discussion with the audience, who also shared valuable suggestions on the various research projects with the presenters.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/12/successful-research-colloquium-of-epfr-research-programme>



Highlighted publications

‘Safeguarding Children’s Rights in Immigration Law’

At the start of 2020, the book ‘Safeguarding Children’s Rights in Immigration Law’ was published by Intersentia.

The book ‘Safeguarding Children’s Rights in Immigration Law’ is a result of the collaboration between the Institute of Immigration Law and the Department of Child Law. The volume consists of a careful selection of papers which were presented at an international conference organised at Leiden University and is edited by Mark Klaassen, Stephanie Rap, Peter Rodrigues and Ton Liefwaard.



Millions of children are on the move worldwide. Children are fleeing conflicts and wars. They move with or without their parents to attain a better future. This book reflects the growing concern for children and children’s rights in immigration in academia and practice and shows the diversity of issues related

to immigration and children, including family reunification, detention, participation, human trafficking and the rights of siblings in the context of migration, as well as the significance of regional legal systems and infrastructures for the protection of children on the move.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/02/new-volume-on-safeguarding-childrens-rights-in-immigration-law>

Marrying Young in Indonesia: Voices, Laws and Practices



New edited volume by Mies Grijns (VVI), Hoko Horii (KITLV/VVI), Sulistyowati Irianto (Universitas Indonesia) and Pinky Saptandari (Airlangga University).

This book is the outcome of a workshop in Jakarta on child marriage research in Indonesia: twelve chapters that complement studies of contemporary child marriage in Indonesia. It includes fieldwork material from different regions: South Sulawesi; South and West Sumatra; West Nusa Tenggara; West, Central and East Java; and DI Yogyakarta.

The book offers a new perspective on child marriage by presenting everyday practices instead of focusing on

stereotypical and sensational cases, that are widely shared on social media. In-depth research shows the agency of young women and its limits, operating in a socioeconomic context that affects child marriage practices in different regions. Local actors such as regional bureaucrats, judges, religious leaders, (step)parents and young people themselves play dynamic roles in changing or sustaining the practice of child marriage.

The book aims to inspire more activists, academics and policymakers towards informing and supporting adolescents in their choices and protecting them - if necessary! - from negative consequences of forced and early marriage.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/01/marrying-young-in-indonesia>

TRAFIG publication \ Governing protracted displacement: What access to solutions for forcibly displaced people?



The international regime governing displacement shows a number of gaps, most notably with regard to (internally) displaced people who are not covered by the definition of refugee of the Refugee Convention. These protection gaps translate into solution gaps for displaced people.

In TRAFIG Policy Brief 1/2020 the authors Marion Noack and Martin Wagner (both International Centre for Migration

Policy Development, ICMPD) and Carolien Jacobs (Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance and Society, Leiden University) give recommendations on governing protracted displacement on various levels.

The TRAFIG project specifically focusses on East Africa and the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania), the Middle East and South Asia (Jordan, Pakistan) as well as Europe (Greece, Italy, Germany). Based on the case of Serge, a displaced person from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the authors of TRAFIG Policy Brief 1/2020 discuss various layers of governance of displacement. As Serge mainly relies on his own in his situation, the publication shows various ways that could help displaced persons. In particular, the authors ask: “What solutions can Serge access within the broader region of the DRC? What solutions are accessible outside the country of origin? In the absence of solutions in the neighbourhood, what third-country solutions are there in Europe? Which rights do refugees have in Europe?”

TRAFIG Policy Brief 1/2020 was published in the framework of the EU-funded Horizon 2020 research project “Transnational Figurations of Displacement” (TRAFIG) which investigates long-lasting displacement situations at multiple sites in Asia, Africa and Europe and analyses options to improve displaced people’s lives.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/01/new-trafig-publication>

Peter Rodrigues on best interests of the child in transnational families



Peter Rodrigues contributed a chapter 'Human Rights and the Best Interests of the Child in European Family Reunification Law' in the book by Bergamini E., Ragni C. (Eds.), *Fundamental Rights and Best Interests of the Child in Transnational Families*.

This chapter analyses various legal situations in which the host country interferes in the relationship of the minor with his or her parent(s) by denying access. The right to family reunification in these situations is then examined, and the balance between the right of States to secure their borders and the right of migrant minors to be reunited with their parents, or vice versa, is discussed. Decisions concerning non-admission of a parent or child may lead to the separation of parents and children, leading to the family's inability to exercise the right of unity of the family and the right to family reunification.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/01/new-publication-on-family-reunification>

Research report: Land and climate change: Rights and environmental displacement in Mozambique

New research report and policy brief by Carolien Jacobs (VVI) and Bernardo Almeida (VVI).

Mozambique is a country prone to natural disasters such as floods and cyclones, and climate change is increasing these risks. The Cyclone Idai, that in March 2019 hit the central area of the country with unprecedented strength, was a clear example of the issues that the country will face in the future. Extreme weather events such as Cyclone Idai result in many problems related to people's land rights, both in the areas directly affected by such storms, and in the areas where environmentally displaced persons seek shelter. Moreover, land rights issues such as the need to displace people from high-risk areas bring another layer of problems to climate change adaptation.



Based on a six-month research project supported by the Knowledge Platform Security & Rule of Law, this report uses the aftermath of the Cyclone Idai in Mozambique as a case study. It looks into the dynamics of environmental displacement, land rights and conflict, and the role of international and national legal frameworks in addressing land-related problems caused by this displacement. A policy brief provides a summary of the main research findings.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/04/new-research-report-land-and-climate-change-rights-and-environmental-displacement-in-mozambique>

Correspondence article by Eduard Fosch-Villaronga in Nature Machine Intelligence

Robot technology is flourishing in multiple sectors of society, including retail, health care, industry and education. However, are robots representative towards minority groups of society, like LGBTQ+ people?

In a new short paper in the journal Nature Machine Intelligence, Adam Poulsen from the School of Computing and Mathematics, Charles Sturt University, Australia, Dr Eduard Fosch-Villaronga from eLaw - Center for Law and Digital Technologies at Leiden University, and Dr Roger A. Søråa from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture discuss what a queering of robots might entail.



Understanding how machines affect the LGBTQ+ community appears largely underexplored, the researchers found. Only a few works in the literature address LGBTQ+ matters in the design of robots and AI.

The researchers conclude that it is imperative that we construct mechanisms and policies that acknowledge the importance of inclusivity, diversity, and non-discrimination, also for the LGBTQ+ community in the development and use of robots and AI.

Fosch-Villaronga and his co-authors highlight the lack of inclusion of queer perspectives on robots and machines. This, they argue, should be better recognised in both the research and design of the robots of the future, and should prod developers and designers to be more inclusive in how they build and create the machines that increasingly walk, talk and act among us.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/02/correspondence-article-by-eduard-fosch-villaronga-in-nature-machine-intelligence>

Children in court proceedings should be heard at much younger age

On 2 March 2020 the report Kind in proces: van communicatie naar effectieve participatie (Children in proceedings: from communication towards effective participation) was published. This multidisciplinary research report is the outcome of an inspiring collaboration between various departments at Leiden University, most notably the Department of Child Law at Leiden Law School, and the Departments of Forensic Family and Youth Care Studies



and Developmental and Educational Psychology at the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences. Commissioned by the Research and Documentation Centre (WODC) of the Ministry of Justice and Security, Professor Mariëlle Bruning (among others) conducted research into the right to be heard and the position of minors in the family and youth justice system which led to the publication of the report.

The position in proceedings and the right to be heard of minors in such proceedings are central in the Leiden University report. Is it possible, and actually desirable, to broaden a minor's position in proceedings and the right to be heard in the Dutch family and child law and, if so, how can this be achieved? This question is answered in the report by considering the legal framework in the Netherlands, relevant international standards, and relevant neuro-cognitive, psychological, and educational insights. The report also presents the outcomes of a research project on current practice and requirements in relation to the right to be heard of minors and their position in proceedings after consultation with children, parents and practitioners.

The report concludes that a shift is required from communication towards the effective participation of – even quite young – minors in family and child law proceedings by implementing a number of improvements. For example,

children from the age of eight – instead of the current twelve years – should be invited to be heard during proceedings involving family and child law.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/02/children-in-court-proceedings-should-be-heard-at-much-younger-age>

‘De invloed van 30 jaar Kinderrechtenverdrag in Nederland’



On September 8 2020, a new book of the Department of Child Law ‘De invloed van 30 jaar Kinderrechtenverdrag in Nederland. Perspectieven voor de rechtspraak’, was presented to the Dutch Ombudsman for Children, Margrite Kalverboer, during the official opening of the Master’s program in Child Law 2020-2021.

‘De invloed van 30 jaar Kinderrechtenverdrag in Nederland. Perspectieven voor de rechtspraak’, edited by Professor Mariëlle Bruning, Katrien Klep and Professor Lies Punselie, covers – in the context of the 30th birthday of the Convention on the Rights of the Child – the rights of children in a wide variety of legal fields.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/nieuws/2020/09/de-invloed-van-30-jaar-kinderrechtenverdrag-in-nederland-aangeboden-aan-kinderombudsvrouw-margrite-kalverboer>

Van Vollenhoven Institute concludes NWO study on police vetting in Kenya

Following periods of oppression and widespread violations of human rights, there is often a need for transitional vetting – a sort of ‘cleansing’ of the civil service. Where does this need come from? There are many answers to this question. But vetting, among other things, can contribute to recovering the legitimacy of bureaucracy and have a potentially important structuring function.

Up to now, little knowledge was available about the practice of vetting. The Van Vollenhoven Institute (VVI) and the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) decided to conduct a study into this practice. To this end, the two institutes decided to focus on a specific case: the vetting of the police service in Kenya. The Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) provided funding for the project. From VVI, Daniel Blocq and Janine Ubink were involved in this project.



Based on an analysis of transcripts of hearings and interviews with the various parties involved, the researchers discovered

that the scope for discretion in decision-making was substantial. That in itself is not problematic, but it does increase the risk of inequality in procedures and in decisions taken in comparable cases. In Kenya, inequality was indeed identified. What was the cause of this? Most members of the vetting commission had hardly any experience with taking judicial decisions. Moreover, they operated in a strongly polarized context. In that context, the researchers established that ethnic diversity, insecurity and the desire for status of commission members, had a negative impact on decision-making.

At present, the international community tends to focus only on legal design when developing transitional vetting programmes. A clear framework is indeed important. But without paying attention to the implementation of that framework and the context in which this is done, there is a risk that the effect of vetting will remain limited, or could even be damaging.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/09/van-vollenhoven-institute-concludes-nwo-study-on-police-vetting-in-kenya>

Patterns in the Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Partners in European Countries

In 2020 the publication of the book *Same-Sex Families and Legal Recognition in Europe* (edited by Marie Digoix, published by Springer Open) has concluded the *Laws And Families* project. This multi-disciplinary project was funded by the EU's Seventh Framework Programme, and coordinated jointly by Kees Waaldijk, professor of comparative sexual orientation law at Leiden University, and Marie Digoix, French Institute



for Demographic Studies (INED). In this open access book Kees Waaldijk provides a detailed comparative analysis of legal developments in the 21 European countries surveyed for the LawsAndFamilies Database, and links these to the findings of the sociological and statistical chapters in the book. There is a clear trend (fortified by European law) of

offering same-sex couples the opportunity to formalise their relationship as marriage and/or as registered partnership – and a clear trend of attaching more and more rights and responsibilities to the informal cohabitation, the registered partnership and/or the civil marriage of two people of the same sex. Waaldijk's chapter, 'What First, What Later? Patterns in the Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Partners in European

Countries' (p. 11-44), focusses on the timing of all these changes. In a five periods analysis, he establishes whether major partnership rights were extended to same-sex couples at the time of the introduction of registered partnership, or before, or at the time of the opening up of marriage, or between those two moments, or after the opening up of marriage. Thereby, and by calculating the same-sex legal recognition consensus among the countries surveyed for each of 26 selected rights, he finds nine typical sequences: Attitudes before rights; Rights before status; Bad-times rights before good-times rights; Responsibilities before benefits; Individual partner rights before couple rights; Partnership before marriage; Immigration rights among the first to be gained; Parenting rights among the last to be gained; Legal recognition before social legitimacy.

https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-37054-1_2

Miscellaneous

Ann Skelton first holder of Rotating Honorary Chair Enforcement of Children's Rights



This new rotating professorship has been established to offer renowned academics the opportunity to teach and conduct research on international children's rights, while at the same time unlocking knowledge that has been acquired worldwide on children's rights.

The discipline of children's rights occupies a unique position in Leiden since Leiden University is one of the few universities that offers children's rights as an academic field of study. The ultimate aim of the department, which also holds the UNICEF Chair in Children's Rights, is to acquire knowledge about international children's rights and to then disseminate this acquired knowledge throughout the world. To this end, this rotating professorship has been established for five years with support from the Kroese-Duijsters Fund, one of the named funds of the Leiden University Fund.

Ann Skelton will teach on the course Enforcement and Monitoring of Children's Rights, part of the Master of Laws Advanced Studies in International Children's Rights programme. She will also be involved in supervising PhD research, the summer school and the 2021 Children's Rights

Moot Court. She is looking forward to holding the rotating professorship this academic year: 'I have enjoyed excellent collaborations with Leiden professors Ton Liefwaard and Julia Sloth-Nielsen for some time. Together we worked on various academic projects and I already taught at Leiden Law School in 2019. It is wonderful to now be a part of this faculty. It is a huge honour for me and I will make every effort to make it a success.'

Skelton currently holds the UNESCO Chair: Education Law in Africa at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. She is also a member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/09/ann-skelton-first-holder-of-enforcement-of-childrens-rights-rotating-professorship>

Ymre Schuurmans visiting professor UCT



From January to March 2020 Ymre Schuurmans, full professor in Constitutional and Administrative Law at Leiden University, was a visiting professor at the University of Cape Town (UCT).

She was hosted by the Institute of Public Law and undertook research into the constitutional underpinning of the administrative law system. Ymre also gave several lectures within the subject of Administrative Justice.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/01/ymre-schuurmans-visiting-professor-uct>

Eduard Fosch-Villaronga becomes Assistant Professor at eLaw

eLaw - Center for Law and Digital Technologies, has promoted Dr. Eduard Fosch-Villaronga to Assistant Professor to work on Law and Artificial Intelligence.

Dr. Eduard Fosch-Villaronga arrived at eLaw in January 2019, holding a Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoctoral fellowship to work on legal and ethical issues arising from healthcare robots and AI technologies.

Dr. Fosch-Villaronga's research addresses the legal and regulatory aspects associated with the use and development of robot and AI technologies. He investigates the interplay between various aspects of the law (privacy, transparency, responsibility, discrimination, and dignity) and different robot embodiments (social robots for therapy, physical assistants for rehabilitation, robotic avatars, or artificial intelligence). Eduard's work helps devise interdisciplinary safeguards for making robots and AI safe to use for society, including children, persons with disabilities, and older people. In this respect, he developed the Robot Impact Assessment methodology to promote responsible robot development.

His ultimate goal is to understand the legal and societal consequences robot and AI technologies have on human nature and inform policies accordingly.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2020/12/eduard-fosch-villaronga-becomes-assistant-professor-at-elaw>



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