



Upcoming Activities

Stakeholder Meeting with Training of Trainers workshop, University of Nairobi, January 2020

The University of Nairobi will host a stakeholder meeting at the beginning of 2020 which will include a training of trainers (TOT) workshop with the participation of select key Resource persons from the sector. The workshop will provide an opportunity for Faculty members to hold candid discourse on the pedagogy, doctrinal inclinations and tools currently in use for legal training.

The discussions from this workshop will be available for persons who are not able to attend in person as the University has also launched a new podcast that showcases video recordings of various meetings and workshops. Recordings for the podcast are already underway as meetings and presentations have already been made after its launch. This podcast will serve as a means to encapsulate the important work being done by the university.

Past Activities

The Third African Forum for Doctoral Research in Human Rights (AfriDoors), Addis Ababa University, October 7-11 2019



1. Participants of 3rd AfriDoors Conference

The third African Forum for Doctoral Research in Human Rights (AfriDoors) event was held in

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 7-11 October, 2019. 55 participants from all universities in the SHUREA project took part in this year's conference. The theme this year was *'Towards a More Robust Protection of Human Rights in Africa'*.

The conference was vital for doctoral candidates at various stages of their research as new members presented their work to different scholars from all partner universities for the first time while veterans from previous AfriDoors Conferences made progress reports. Full papers were also presented and received vital

feedback. The papers will eventually be eligible for publication in one of the reputable journals produced by the partner universities such as The African Human Rights Law Journal, The East African Law Journal and The Journal of Ethiopian Law. 15 full papers and 15 PhD progress reports were presented over the course of the conference. Presentations on research writing, methods and ethics were also a highlight of the conference.

Stakeholder Meetings

The Third Annual Thematic Conference of the School of Law, Addis Ababa University, June 28 - 29 2019



2. Panel Discussion, AAU School of Law

The third Annual Thematic Conference of the Addis Ababa University School of Law was held with the theme *'Ethiopia in Transition: Responding to Human Rights Violations of the Past; and Reimagining Ethiopian Federalism.'* The School invited various stakeholders to participate at the conference with a total of 15 papers presented and discussed.

6th Annual National Conference on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 25-26, September 2019



This yearly conference held by the Makerere Law School had the theme *'Strengthening access to justice for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.'* The Conference was a platform for networking by different stakeholders working on access to justice and ESCRs. It discussed the different mechanisms and remedies

available to victims and how effective and efficient these are. It covered both formal and informal mechanisms, as well as judicial and quasi-judicial systems, in addition to administrative mechanisms. More information can be found [here](#)

The 2nd Annual National Disability Law and Rights Conference, Makerere University, October 25 2019

The Makerere School of Law has established a Disability Law and Rights Centre (DLRC). As one of the activities of the Centre, the School in partnership with Strengthening Human Rights Research and Education in Sub-Saharan Africa (SHUREA), Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa (OSIEA), and the Network for Public Interest Lawyers (NETPIL) held the 2nd Annual National Conference on Disability Law and Rights under the theme: *"Leaving No One Behind: Promoting Accessibility and Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities for Sustainable Development in Uganda"*. The conference brought together representatives from Government agencies, DPOs, NGOs, members of academia, students and the general public and sparked great discussion between different stakeholders. More information can be found [here](#)

International Conferences

ENCLE and IJCLE Conference, Bratislava, Slovakia, 3-5 July 2019



3. Participants of ENCLE and IJCLE Conference

Dr. Getachew Assefa from Addis Ababa University travelled to Bratislava, Slovakia to participate in the European Network of Clinical Legal Education (ENCLE) and International Journal of Clinical Legal

Education (IJCLE) Conference from 3-5 July, 2019. He took part in a panel entitled 'The Theoretical and Philosophical perspectives panel' in which he presented his book entitled '*Clinical Legal Education: Philosophical and Theoretical Perspectives*' that is proposed to be part of an edited book to be published in 2020 by Rutledge. For more information on the Conference, please see [here](#)

The fourth Annual Conference of the Law & Development Research Network (LDRN) was also held on 25-27 September 2019 at Humboldt University Law Faculty, Berlin, Germany



4. Members of the panel:
Dr. Viljam Enström, Adjunct professor (right) Cornelia Walther, PhD, UNICEF (Middle) Enrique Delamonica UNICEF (Left)

Dr. Viljam Engström from the Institute for Human Rights, Åbo Akademi University and Dr. Sisay Alemahu from Addis Ababa University have travelled to Berlin to the LDRN conference over the summer. They had successful presentations and panel discussions. Dr. Engström's presentation is largely reflected in the blog: "A slow revolution to protect the poor and vulnerable? The International Monetary Fund's Social Spending Strategy 2019" which is published in the Law and Development Symposium of Völkerrechts blog. You can read it [here](#).

SHUREA Mobility

This year, under the SHUREA mobility program, 4 mobility researchers at different stages of their doctoral studies travelled to Pretoria University in South Africa for research stays ranging from 3-5 months. Åbo Akademi University is also hosting 6 doctoral students for periods of 2-5 months. During their stay, the researchers have taken part in seminar

sessions and presented their work to members of staff who have given them good feedback that they will use to ameliorate their work.

The Institute for Human Rights in Åbo Akademi University has also hosted two post-doctoral researchers from Addis Ababa University, Dr. Yonas Birmeta and Dr. Mizanie Tadesse for a period of one month each. They have used the time spent at the Institute to do research relating to migration legislation in Ethiopia. Dr. Mizanie also travelled to the University of Eastern Finland for a UNIPID pre-conference to talk on The Right to Education in Ethiopia. More information can be found [here](#)

Advanced Course on Justiciability of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Åbo Akademi University, November 11-15, 2019



5. Participants of this year's Advanced Course on Justiciability of ESC Rights

The Åbo Akademi Institute for Human Rights has organized and hosted an Advanced Course on Justiciability of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in cooperation with the Socio-Economic Rights and Administrative Justice Project, University of Stellenbosch Law Faculty, South Africa and the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights at the University of Oslo. A total of 26 participants from various parts of the world attended the week-long course.

Guest researchers on mobility as well as Dr. Mizanie Tadesse, a post-doctoral guest have attended the course.

To get more information on the course as well as other practical information regarding the application procedure for

next year's course, please click [here](#) and follow the updates on the Institute's webpage.

Improving Availability and Quality

One of the objectives of the SHUREA project is to increase availability and quality of PhD training in the field of human rights. With that in mind, resources such as books, journals and access to them is one of the most effective means to ensure that academic work is of supreme quality. Under the SHUREA project, partner universities have been able to procure online subscriptions to reputable online databases in order to encourage research without resource-related restrictions

Publications and communication

Please keep us informed on events and publications relevant to the SHUREA project. We will be happy to share the news via the SHUREA Newsletter, website (www.abo.fi/shurea), e-mail list (shurea@abo.fi) and facebook page.

SHUREA aims at improving the quality and availability of PhD training in human rights, and strengthening the role of human rights research in societal development processes. Project partners are the Institute for Human Rights at Åbo Akademi University in Finland, Centre for Human Rights at University of Pretoria in South Africa, School of Law at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, School of Law at Makerere University in Uganda and School of Law at University of Nairobi in Kenya.

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