



Bonavero
Institute
of Human
Rights



Annual Highlights

2023 - 2024

Contents

Click to navigate to a section

1 Welcome from
our Director

2 Community

3 Research

4 Programmes

5 Events

6 Social Media

Welcome

From our Director

Sunday, 10th December 2023 marked the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (the UDHR) by the General Assembly of the United Nations, and the cover of this year's Bonavero Annual Highlights commemorates that important anniversary. We are grateful to Odette Farrell for her luminous artwork celebrating the UDHR, which provides the theme for this year's edition of the Bonavero Annual Highlights.



The UDHR is a short document containing only 30 clauses, but as the founding document of the international human rights law framework, its impact has been remarkable. Reading the UDHR today, three things catch the eye. First, the Preamble proclaims that the UDHR is to be “a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations...” and acknowledges that “... it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law”.

In recognising the relationship between human rights and the rule of law, the UDHR has a special significance for lawyers. Secondly, the Declaration affirms not only the classic civil and political liberties (in Articles 3 - 21), but also economic, social, and cultural rights, including a right to social security (Article 22), a right to education (Article 26), and a right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of the individual and the family (Article 25). In this regard, it still seems ahead of its time. Thirdly, there is no direct identification of those who might bear duties in relation to the rights

declared, although the UDHR does suggest that it is not only governments that bear the duty to promote respect for human rights. Here it is worth recalling that the Preamble proclaims that “every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction”.

There can be little doubt, therefore, that the UDHR places special obligations upon institutions of learning, and that is one of the reasons why the Bonavero Institute has placed the UDHR at its centre, both in the Institute's built fabric (all visitors encounter a statue of [Eleanor Roosevelt](#), one of the UDHR's architects, as they arrive) and in its research and programmes. It seems especially fitting then for us to mark the 75th anniversary of the UDHR in the cover to this year's Annual Highlights.

Overview of the year

At the end of its seventh year, [the staff](#) of the Bonavero Institute numbered 21 – a full directory is provided later. Notably, we were delighted to welcome [Professor Başak Çali](#) as our new Head of Research. Başak joined us on a part-time basis in January (which will become full time at the beginning of Michaelmas Term 2024) from the Hertie School in Berlin. You can read more about Başak's career and research interests below.

In providing an overview of our highlights of the year, I cover four key areas of activity – research, enriching student engagement both for Oxford students and others, building capacity for early career scholars and human rights practitioners, and fostering public understanding of, and engagement with, human rights.

Research

We had a range of research grants under way this year. Since April 2019, the Bonavero Institute has served as one of the six partner

institutions in the [Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre](#), which is funded by the [Arts and Humanities Research Council \(AHRC\)](#), and led until March 2024 by the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law. In April 2024, the AHRC confirmed it would fund a second phase of the Policy and Evidence Centre for a further three years. In this second phase, to run from 2024 to 2027, the Policy and Evidence Centre will be hosted by the Humanities Division at the University of Oxford, and the Bonavero Institute will be one of the three partners in this phase, the others being the University of Liverpool and the Wilberforce Institute at the University of Hull. The John Fell Fund has also indicated that it will provide support to the project. Together with match funding provided by the Bonavero, the AHRC and John Fell grants will enable the Bonavero to employ a Co-Investigator on the project and a 2-year postdoctoral researcher.

Research projects led by Professor Jeremias Adams-Prassl, funded by the European Research Council grant (iMANAGE) and investigating the use of artificial intelligence by employers, and Professor fMartin Scheinin, funded by the British Academy and investigating the intersection between international human rights law and the digital world, continued to produce excellent research.

We have had two Leverhulme early career scholars at the Bonavero this year, [Dr Ekaterina Aristova](#), who is investigating the use of strategic climate litigation (2022 – 2025), and [Dr Moiz Tundawala](#), who is investigating democracy in South Asia (2023 – 2026). In addition, Professor Jonathan Herring and Dr Naomi Lott continued to work on their John Fell Fund grant project, 'Developing a Framework for the Implementation of the Right to Play'.

Our [Research Visitor Programme](#) continued to bring excellent scholars of different generations and career paths from across the globe to the Bonavero this year. Research visitors work from desks in the Helena Kennedy Reading Room and participate in our weekly research-in-progress seminars, Bonavero Perspectives. We hosted twelve Research Visitors from a wide array of jurisdictions, which enriched our collegial conversations and events. You can read some of the thoughts of our [Research Visitors later](#).

The [Bonavero Reports](#) series publishes commentary on human rights related policy or legislative proposals and research-based commentary on pressing human rights issues in a policy-ready manner. In the course of this academic year, we have published four Bonavero Reports: [Submission to Australian Parliamentary Joint Committee: Inquiry into Australia's Human Rights Framework](#) (Bonavero Report 3/2023) (we learnt recently that the Joint Committee has recommended the adoption of a Bill of Rights in Australia); [Submission to UK Parliament Joint Committee on Human Rights \(JCHR\) on Human Rights at Work](#) (Bonavero Report 4/2023); [The Non-Punishment Principle and its Implementation in the UK: Proceedings from 'Different Perspectives on the Non-Punishment Principle' Workshop, University of Oxford, October 2023](#) (Bonavero Report 1/2024); and [Climate Litigation in Europe Unleashed: Catalysing Action against States and Corporations](#) (Bonavero Report 2/2024).

Enriching student engagement with human rights

In April, for the first time in five years, we hosted the final rounds of the [Price Media Law Moot Court](#) in Oxford. This year's moot problem focussed on issues relating to generative AI and media law. The competition saw eight-nine teams of students from universities around the world competing in six regional rounds (Asia Pacific, Middle East, South Asia, Africa, Americas, and Europe), with thirty-two teams advancing to the final rounds. The University of Chicago team edged the Singapore Management University team in the hard-fought final.

In July, we hosted the second Bonavero-GWU [Summer School in International Human Rights Law](#). In addition to a plenary lecture series, the Summer School includes a core course for all students on the fundamentals of international human rights law, and a series of electives. This year fifty students have registered for the course.

Our two legal aid clinics in partnership with the Centre for Criminology and Turpin and Miller solicitors in Oxford, also ran successfully this year. Both clinics provide legal advice on immigration to foreign national prisoners. The first clinic is based at HMP Huntercombe, and the other is an online clinic providing advice to foreign national female prisoners in British prisons.

The Bonavero [Student Fellowship](#) programme once again ran this year. We had a record number of applicants for the fellowships for summer 2024 and placed seventeen students in sixteen partner organisations.

We also continued to host our [Graduate Research Students](#) who are allocated desks in the Helena Kennedy Reading Room. We had twenty-five Graduate Research Students in 2024.

The [Bonavero Graduate Research Forum](#), which is convened by four doctoral students at the Bonavero, once again met regularly during the year to discuss work-in-progress. Trinity Term saw the annual writing workshop of the Forum in which students present their work, and faculty members serve as discussants.

Building capacity for scholars and practitioners in human rights

Four initiatives addressed this goal this year. First, our weekly, in-term, work-in-progress seminar series, Bonavero Perspectives, continued with twenty-four engaging seminars seeking to build capacity of all scholars, including Research Visitors and Early Career Scholars, associated with the Institute.

Secondly, the [Symposium on Strength and Solidarity for Human Rights](#), funded by the Global Foundation for Human Rights, moved into the last year of its five-year term. The Symposium has sought to build organisational strength and increase solidarity across human rights organisations by convening organisational leaders, activists, scholars and movement builders for week-long gatherings twice a year to discuss the challenges they face. So far nine gatherings have been held. The Bonavero Institute's role in the Symposium has been to develop training materials for the Symposium, and to support the work of the Symposium in other ways. The Principal Investigators in Oxford are Professor Christopher Stone at the Blavatnik School of Government and Professor Kate O'Regan at the Bonavero Institute.

Thirdly, on 29 September 2023, we co-hosted with [UNESCO a Judicial Symposium](#) on freedom of expression that convened fifteen Chief Justices and senior judges from the five regions of the world,



including judges from all the regional human rights courts, in Oxford. The event was held in the Old Hall, Mansfield College. Finally, on 20 and 21 June 2024, with International IDEA, we co-hosted a [Symposium on the Drafting of Bills of Rights](#) in modern constitutions that was attended by a group of actors currently engaged in the drafting of constitutions in an array of countries across the globe.

Public outreach

Our public events calendar this year has again been busy. In September 2023, with UNESCO and the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, we hosted a [Global Conference on Universal Access to Information](#). It was attended by senior judges, information commissioners, leading academics, and civil society actors from across the world. It led to the adoption of the [Oxford Statement on the Importance of Access to Information and Digital Connectivity](#).

In April, we hosted the [Eric Barendt Annual Media Law Lecture](#), the fifth in the series hosted by the Bonavero, which was delivered this year by Nani Jansen Reventlow, head of [Systemic Justice](#), with the title 'Free Speech, Power and Liberation'.

The [Bonavero Discussion Group](#), our longest running series, hosted ten events this year on a range of topics. The Discussion Group is a forum which attracts a wide range of participants both in Oxford and beyond, and provides a forum for discussing interesting new books, contemporary issues of importance, and current litigation. With regard to the last of these, we hosted discussions, for example, on the implications of the [International Court of Justice's Provisional Measures in the Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in the Gaza Strip](#) (South Africa v Israel), and one on the recent European Court of Human Rights decision on environmental rights (Verein Klima Seniorinnen Schweiz and Others v Switzerland).

We now host three student-led discussion groups, the [Oxford Business and Human Rights Network](#), the Oxford Children's Rights Network, and the newly established [Law and Democracy Discussion Group](#). Each hosts public discussions with interesting speakers, most

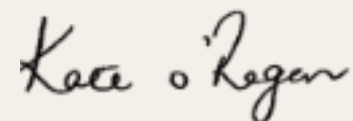
of which are held in a hybrid format enabling both those in Oxford and those further afield the opportunity to attend. Thirteen events were hosted this year.

We also hosted [seven book launches](#) this year, each of which involved a panel of speakers discussing newly published works. Many of the books have been edited or written by members of the broader Bonavero community, including former Research Visitors who worked on their books while at the Bonavero. In addition, we hosted four book discussions at the Bonavero Discussion Group.

Conclusion

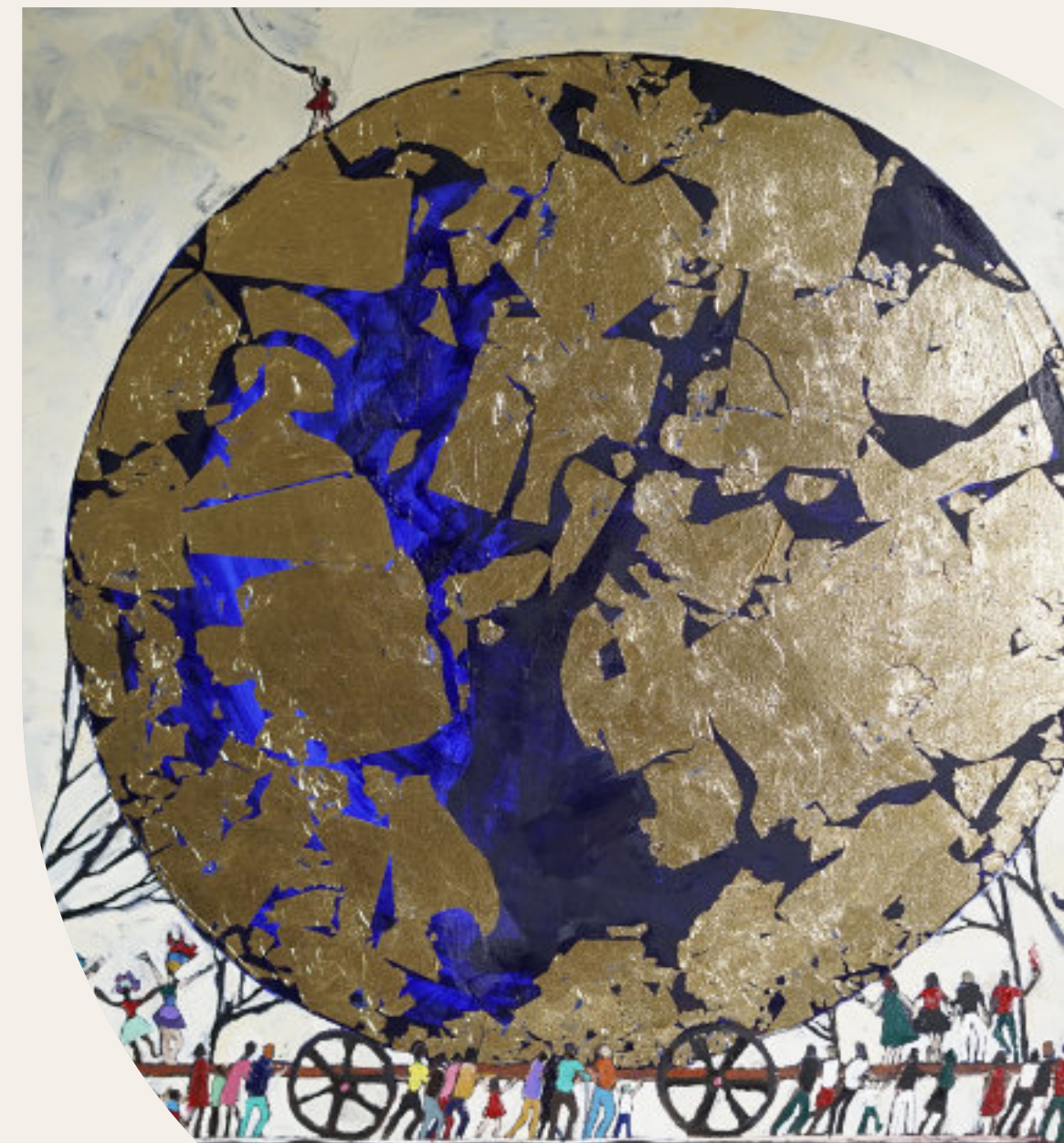
I should like once again to thank our dedicated and hard-working Administrative Team, Zoe Davis-Heaney, Sarah Norman, Rosie Stuart and Bharat Shivan, who make all that we do possible. I would also like to thank our Research Assistants for the year, Ayako Hatano, Sarah Ourednickova, and Georgia Speechly who have provided invaluable support to events and programmes throughout the year. Thank you to Jonathan White at Garlic Agency who yet again has produced a striking Annual Highlights report this year. Finally, I should like to acknowledge the generous support of our donors, Anne and Yves Bonavero, the AB Charitable Trust, Eric Lewis, and others who continue to provide us not only with financial support but also encouragement and valued advice.

Kate O'Regan



**Oxford
June 2024**

High lights



Mission Statement

The purpose of the Institute is to:

Engage in and foster research and scholarship in the law of human rights across different academic disciplines in collaboration with scholars, practitioners, and members of civil society from across the world, and, as part of this purpose:

Share knowledge about the law of human rights with the aim of improving the public understanding of human rights and of linking research to practice.

Bonavero
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Fundamental Principles

The Institute will pursue its mission based on the following principles:

The Institute approaches human rights in a broad manner, including its various formulations in moral and political theory, social and political practice, and international, regional, and domestic law, as well as the institutional frameworks and conditions conducive to their realisation.

The Institute is committed to building and enhancing human rights expertise in early career scholars, practitioners (including judges, lawyers, governmental and non-governmental organisations, and politicians) and members of civil society, with a particular focus on scholars and practitioners working in understudied regions outside North America and Western Europe.

The Institute is committed to academic freedom and welcomes debates on the foundations, scope, and mechanisms for realising human rights.

Professor Başak Çalı joins as Head of Research

In January 2024, we were delighted to welcome Başak Çalı as our new Head of Research at the Institute and Professor of International Law in the Faculty of Law.



Başak is a leading scholar of international law and human rights. Her scholarship on international human rights law spans the European human rights system, human rights systems in the Americas and Africa, the United Nations' human rights system, and the newly emerging human rights systems in Asia. She has a long-standing interest in

interdisciplinary studies of international human rights law, human rights research methods, and comparative human rights law.

Başak is currently working on a major co-authored monograph entitled *Leading Cases in UN Human Rights*. This will be the seminal case law book of the key decisions of all UN human rights treaty bodies, offering not only systematization of this case law, but also a comparative analysis of how the UN human rights law case law fares when compared to regional human rights law jurisprudence in Europe, Americas and Africa. Funded by the German Research Council (DFG), this study will be a major resource for researchers and practitioners of human rights law.

The Bonavero Team continues to grow and this year has been an exciting one as new staff are welcomed to the Institute.

Our Director is Kate O'Regan, and our Head of Research is Başak Çalı. In January, we bade farewell to Freya Baetens as our Head of Programmes, although she continues to serve as the Director of the International Human Rights Law Summer School until August 2024. We are now recruiting a new Programmes Manager to commence, we hope, in Michaelmas 2024. Shreya Atrey and Nazila Ghanea continue to deliver the MSc in International Human Rights Law. This year the team has been complemented by Christos Kypraios as temporary Research Manager. British Academy Global Professor, Martin Scheinin, continued to work on his research project, "Addressing the Digital Realm through the Grammar of Human Rights Law", which will draw to completion in February 2025.

We have seven post-doctoral fellows and two researchers working at the Bonavero. Six Silberman works on data protection at work on a project led by Jeremias Adams-Prassl which is funded by the European Commission, alongside the Team Researcher Sangh Rakshita. Daniella Lock supports the Symposium on Strength and Solidarity project and Richard Mackenzie-Gray Scott and Nina Keese work alongside Martin Scheinin. Naomi Lott and Juliet Scott Barrett both work on the *Developing a Framework for the Implementation of the Right to Play* project, funded by the John Fell Fund. We also have two Leverhulme Fellows, Ekaterina (Katya) Aristova working on

business and human rights, and Moiz Tundawala working on 'Legalizing Sovereignty in South Asian Constitutionalism'. We said farewell to Maayan Niezna who left the Modern Slavery and Human Rights project for a permanent post at the University of Liverpool in December 2023, and to Halefom Abraha who left the iMANAGE project and joined the University of Utrecht in March 2024. We are always sad to see our post-doctoral fellows leave, but glad when they secure good appointments in leading universities, which we consider to be evidence of the success of our early career programme.

Zoe Davis-Heaney continues to lead our Administrative Team, supported by Sarah Norman, Programmes Administrator, Rosie Stuart, Events Coordinator, and Bharat Shivan, Grants & Finance Officer. The International Human Rights Law Summer School is supported by both Laura Thomlinson and Mandakini Jathavethan.

This year our Research, Event and Communications work has been supported by three very able and talented assistants. Ayako Haytano, Sarah Ourednickova, and Georgia Speechly. Warm thanks to all three of them. Zaki Rehman is also currently working as a Research Assistant on a new project exploring the history of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948). This new research is a collaboration with the Quill Project, based in the History Faculty and Pembroke College, which creates cutting edge tools to help researchers interpret legal texts. The project seeks to foster interdisciplinary conversations about the past, present, and future of human rights.



Meet the Team



Basak Cali
Head of Research
Contact me



Bharat Shivan
Finance & Grants Officer
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Christos Kypraios
Temporary Research Manager
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Daniella Lock
Postdoctoral Research Fellow
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Ekaterina Aristova
Leverhulme Early Career Fellow
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IHRL Summer School Director
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VISIT OUR STAFF PAGE



High lights

‘Imagine’ by Odette Farrell

Imagine a light world. People from all corners of the world are happily pushing and pulling this light globe forward. Some of them dance Samba, Flamenco, Dabke or any dance to express their joy.

The earth has mainly two colours, a deep dark blue that represents wisdom and the other colour is gold, which denotes its highest value.

A little girl on top of the world, representing future generations is flying a kite symbolising hope.

Imagine a world where all human beings are born free and equal in rights and dignity.

Odette Farrell is a London based Painter, Sculptor, and Ceramist.

VISIT HER WEBSITE
TO LEARN MORE 



Research Assistants



Ayako Hatano, Assistant (Research, Events, & Comms)

As a Bonavero Research, Event, and Communication Assistant, I had the pleasure of supporting student-led groups, including the Business and Human Rights Network, the Child Rights Network, and the Law and Democracy Network. This role allowed me to connect researchers and human rights practitioners, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing.

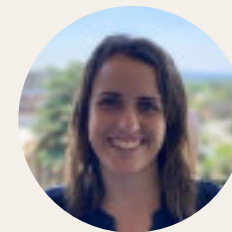
I also coordinated symposia and workshops with human rights experts from within and beyond Oxford. These events included major book launches and technology-and-rights-related discussions, bringing together diverse perspectives on pressing human rights issues. Highlights include an intense discussion on the implications of the International Court of Justice's provisional measures in the application of the Genocide Convention in Gaza, and the Roundtable on Rights-respecting approaches to content and platform governance in times of crisis. I deeply appreciated the opportunity to support such an important dialogue during a contentious time.

My experience at Bonavero had a profound impact on my doctoral research on the localisation of international human rights, enabling me to explore different kinds of rights in various contexts. I am honored to be part of the Bonavero family, where I have found a nurturing and inspiring environment. I deeply appreciate Bonavero's commitment to fostering collaboration and dialogue with various stakeholders on critical human rights issues.



Sarah Ourednickova, Assistant (Research, Events, & Comms)

I assisted with Perspectives (every Thursday), the Bonavero Human Rights Careers Fair, and some workshops, such as the Bonavero-Oxfam Climate Litigation Workshop, the Bonavero-International IDEA Constitutionalizing Rights in the 21st Century, and a session of the Law and Democracy Network. I am a DPhil in Law candidate working on the recognition and participation of LGBTQ+ people through courts.



Georgia Speechly, Assistant (Research, Events, & Comms)

As a Research, Events and Communications Assistant, I primarily supported book launch and Bonavero Discussion Group events. This entailed liaising with the various authors, chairs, and panellists, assisting with publicity of events, and making other necessary arrangements. For book launch events, I also engaged with publishers to ensure copies of the relevant books were disseminated to speakers prior to the events. I further attended and supported these and various other events, to make sure everything (including online participation and event recordings) ran smoothly. These events were fascinating, as there were many reputable speakers.



Zaki Rehman, Assistant (Human Rights History)

I am a DPhil Student in the History Faculty working on Islam, human rights, and freedom of religion. I am currently working as a Research Assistant under the supervision of Bonavero Director Professor Kate O'Regan on a new project exploring the history of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948). This new research is a collaboration with the Quill Project, based in the History Faculty and Pembroke College, which creates cutting edge tools to help researchers interpret legal texts. The project seeks to foster interdisciplinary conversations about the past, present, and future of human rights.



Research Visitors

The Bonavero Institute's Research Visitor Programme continues to thrive. The programme brings scholars and practitioners to the Bonavero from across the globe. During the 2023 – 24 Academic Year we welcomed fifteen visitors from as far afield as Australia, South Africa, Turkey, the United States, and Brazil, as well as from Newcastle (via Ukraine), Belfast, and London. Meet our visitors present and past!



Vanessa MacDonnell (University of Ottawa, Canada)

In 2023, I was a short-term Visitor at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights. I was warmly welcomed by Director Kate O'Regan and the entire Bonavero team. During my time at the Institute, I was able to advance my research on the constitutional interpretation practices of Canada's federal executive. I also had several opportunities to interact with the wider Bonavero community - through the Institute's Perspectives workshop series, informal lunches and coffee breaks with other visiting fellows, and through enthusiastic conversations with the Institute's stellar doctoral students. It was truly a pleasure to spend some time among this vibrant community of scholars and human rights practitioners.



Sarah Biddulph (Melbourne University, Australia)

I spent a fruitful and very happy six weeks between 23 September 2023 to 15 November 2023 at the Bonavero Institute for Human Rights during my sabbatical leave. It was my first opportunity in many years to work intensively on a research project. My research focus was on the causes and consequence of government officials not doing their jobs and the political consequences of this failure. I was most grateful to be able to present a this paper for discussion in the Bonavero Perspectives series. I was energised by and benefited greatly from the thoughtful, wide-ranging, and even challenging discussion on the issues raised by the paper. But most importantly I was grateful to be able to join the engaged and overwhelmingly welcoming and supportive environment and people of the Bonavero. My thanks to you all for your kindness and your generous welcome.



Antonio Maués (Para University, Brazil)

My time as a Research Visitor at Bonavero was a valuable academic experience. The Institute is a welcoming and truly international community, and its members are committed to advancing new approaches to human rights. The academic environment provides many opportunities to exchange ideas. Among the various activities, I wish to highlight the Bonavero Perspectives series, which is held weekly to discuss draft papers on current human rights issues in a very collaborative context. My research on equality and anti-discrimination law got a boost during this period, as I could discuss recent theories on this subject and learn from colleagues from different countries and backgrounds. Thanks again to all the Bonavero team for this fantastic time!



Tetyana (Tanya) Krupiy, lecturer (Newcastle University)

I am very grateful for having had an opportunity to be a Visiting Researcher at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights. The doors of one of the rooms display a quote from Eleanor Roosevelt. Eleanor observed that, "It's Better to Light a Candle than to Curse the Darkness." For me, this inspiring and meaningful message captures the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights very well. The Institute nurtured my ability to bring more compassion into this world through my work by enabling me to engage in professional development. A strength of the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights is its collegiality. Attending dinners at Mansfield College created an opportunity for me to get to know individuals on a more personal level and to become integrated into the community. I found the beautiful garden and comfortable surroundings conducive to carrying out my work. I am very thankful to everyone for their caring and attentive attitude.



Research Visitors



Muzaffer Eroğlu (Bogazici University, Turkey)

I was provided with an opportunity to spend my sabbatical term during Michaelmas 2023 as a Visiting Researcher at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights. Bonavero has a perfect Research Visitor programme since it provides a great environment to share and discuss contemporary topics at the highest academic level with its strong community of academics, visiting researchers, PhD students, and post-docs. Even though my research career is based on private law, and I research business and human rights, I benefited a lot from a wide range of human rights-related discussions in seminars and meetings with other experts in human rights who work on a huge variety of subjects.



Steven Majiedt (Constitutional Court of South Africa)

During October 2023 I had the singular privilege of being a Visiting Researcher at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights. That has been a most rewarding experience for me. I was immensely stimulated intellectually by the lively discourse and debates with students and other Research Visitors. I thoroughly enjoyed the warm friendliness afforded me and the enriching academic environment. Coming from a fledgling democracy with a much admired Constitution, but with an increasingly vigorous debate about the enforcement of justiciable fundamental rights, particularly socio-economic rights, I was pleasantly surprised by the depth of knowledge, rigorous interactions, and highly constructive contributions made by particularly human rights law students. The Bonavero Institute provides a wonderful environment for all of this to take place.

Early Career Fellows



Gehan Gunatilleke

I began my Early Career Fellowship at the Bonavero Institute in February 2022 in conjunction with a Junior Research Fellowship at Pembroke, College Oxford. My research focused on Sri Lanka's constitutional practice with respect to religious liberty. During my fellowship, I published journal articles and book chapters on the restriction of religious liberty in Sri Lanka and Muslim minority rights in Sri Lanka, and worked on a monograph on religious violence in Sri Lanka. One of the most rewarding and valuable parts of the fellowship was the weekly Bonavero Perspectives Seminar, which offered fellows an opportunity to present their work and receive feedback. This forum enabled me to present my working paper critiquing the standard legal test that assesses limitations on religious liberty. In July 2023, I was appointed as a Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, and this appointment enabled me to explore opportunities to integrate my scholarship within the work of the Commission. For example, the Commission's recent recommendations on the freedom of movement and the right to commemorate the dead draw from aspects of my scholarship on limitations on fundamental rights and freedoms.



Neli Frost

I completed my Ph.D. in Law at the University of Cambridge in 2022. I research at the intersection of law and technology. My research problematizes the challenges of technology through the lens of democratic theory and explores the implications of these challenges for public and international law. Over the past several months I have had the opportunity to engage with an extremely diverse group of scholars, which provided me both the opportunity to receive robust feedback on my own work, and to learn about the work of others in ways that have been truly eye-opening and inspiring. The weekly seminars at the Bonavero have contributed to my professional development in enhancing valuable academic capabilities such as presentation skills and communicating across various areas of law. More than anything though, the Early Career Fellowship has allowed me to enjoy a genuine sense of community here at Oxford and to build meaningful professional relationships.



Graduate Research Resident Stories

Each year the Graduate Research Resident Programme hosts a group of graduate students registered for research degrees (MPhil and DPhil) in the broad field of Human Rights. We aim to provide our Graduate Research Resident Students a space to study along with an opportunity to engage with the wider Bonavero community of academics and visitors in order to broaden and enhance their experience whilst studying at Oxford.



Konrad Ksiazek

My residency at Bonavero was definitely a highlight of my time as a doctoral student at Oxford. At Bonavero, I found much more than just a study space. I found myself surrounded by a wonderful community of brilliant, supportive, and friendly peers, who inspired me each day, and reminded me of just what a joy an academic career can be. It was great to bounce ideas with them and share endless cups of coffee and enjoy inspiring and enriching conversations about all kinds of subjects. During my residency, I also had the genuine

privilege and true pleasure of Co-Convening the Graduate Research Forum with fantastic peers and great friends - Katie, Gideon, Amy, Chelsea, and Angelica. I am grateful beyond words for my time here. I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the great team at Bonavero for making my time here so exceptional.



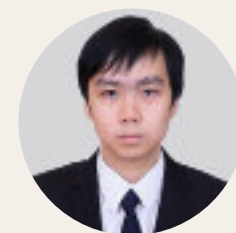
Oskar Sherry

My time at the Bonavero as a Graduate Research Resident has been invaluable. I've found a dedicated space to focus on my research, and my colleagues here have been an invaluable source of knowledge and support as I write up. Oxford is a hectic place and it can be difficult to find a sense of academic community as a DPhil, so I am incredibly grateful to the Bonavero for providing one.



Elinor Buys

Being part of the Graduate Research Resident Programme has been a highlight of my DPhil experience. As a member of the Bonavero community, I have had the opportunity to embrace all that the Institute offers. Engaging with fellow residents and participating in the Institute's events have been significant sources of academic and professional inspiration. Additionally, the dedicated workspace in the Reading Room has been invaluable in helping me focus on my research and writing.



Edward Long Yin Lui

I really wish to take this opportunity to thank the team at the Bonavero for having created such a welcoming and vibrant place at Oxford. My DPhil studies have undoubtedly been enriched by the experiences here, and it would have been quite difficult to imagine what it would have been like without it. I sincerely hope that a similar opportunity will continue to become available for DPhil students in the years to come - and for this, one would certainly have the dedicated staff at the Bonavero to thank.



In this academic year, researchers at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights have continued to engage in cutting edge research on new human rights challenges around the globe and how human rights actors and institutions can best respond to these challenges in different settings. Our researchers made submissions to the UK Parliament Joint Committee on human rights at work. We published four Bonavero reports, which examined, amongst other things, the non-punishment principle for victims of modern slavery and trafficking, as well as climate litigation in Europe against states and corporations. We hosted three Early Career Researchers, fifteen Visiting Researchers, and twenty-five Graduate Residents throughout the year.

Bonavero Research



Modern Slavery & Human Rights Policy & Evidence Centre

Modern slavery has been one of the main areas of work at the Bonavero since its early years. In April 2019, the Institute became a member of the Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre (the Modern Slavery PEC) along with other UK-based research institutions.

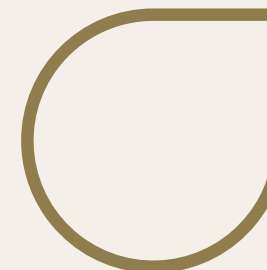
The mission of the [Modern Slavery PEC](#) is to enhance the understanding of modern slavery and transform the effectiveness of laws and policies designed to address it. With the high-quality research it commissions at its heart, the Centre brings together academics, policymakers, businesses, civil society, survivors, and the public to collaborate on solving this global challenge.

The Modern Slavery PEC is funded by the [Arts and Humanities Research Council](#) on behalf of the [UK Research and Innovation \(UKRI\)](#), from the Strategic Priorities Fund. In April 2024, the Centre was awarded continuation funding by the AHRC for a further three years. In this second phase to run until March 2027, the MS PEC will be part of the Humanities Division at Oxford as part of the University's vision for the new [Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities](#). The Bonavero will continue as one of the core partners in this phase, the others being the University of Liverpool and the Wilberforce Institute, while the Bingham Centre continues as a collaborative partner.



From left to right: Murray Hunt, Sofia Gonzalez De Aguinaga, Jennifer Gordon, Maayan Niezna, Christos Kypraios

**MODERN SLAVERY
& HUMAN RIGHTS** | POLICY &
EVIDENCE
CENTRE
Led by the Bingham Centre



Climate Litigation

On 22 November 2023, the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights, supported by the Leverhulme Trust, Oxfam, Woodsford Litigation, and the Oak Foundation, hosted a one-day workshop to discuss current developments in climate change litigation against states and private actors.

By bringing together over 50 academics, practitioners, funders, and members of civil society from the UK, several EU jurisdictions and South Africa, the Institute fostered a collaborative environment to explore opportunities for knowledge exchange in the field. Through dynamic panels and interactive discussions, participants gained a panoramic view of the evolving legal strategies and engaged in debates on the profound impacts of climate-related lawsuits.

The workshop led to the publication of Bonavero Report No. 2/2024: '[Climate Litigation in Europe Unleashed: Catalyzing Action against States and Corporations](#)' edited by Ekaterina Aristova and Justin Lim. Within its pages lie sixteen expert opinion pieces, meticulously curated to explore the intricate web of legal arguments in climate litigation. From scholars to practitioners, each voice adds depth to the discourse, offering insights into potential avenues for legal activism, policy transformation, and precedent-setting.

Moreover, the report serves not merely as a reflection but as a compass, guiding future endeavours in climate justice. In its introduction, the editors illuminate key insights, identify knowledge gaps, and chart directions for further research. It's not just a record of discussions, it is a roadmap for the journey ahead—a journey towards a more sustainable and just future for all.

Bonavero
REPORTS
series



Bonavero Perspectives

The 'Bonavero Perspectives' seminar is the weekly in-house research seminar series of the Institute, where the Bonavero research team — including our academic staff, academic affiliates, Research Visitors, Early Career Fellows, and Graduate Resident Students — comes together to discuss research in progress.

With a primary objective of fostering constructive feedback in a rigorous and collegial manner, to build capacity among Bonavero-affiliated scholars and human rights practitioners, the series contributes to the generation of high-quality, innovative research outcomes.

This year Bonavero Perspectives hosted twenty-four workshops on research projects, draft articles, draft chapters, and forthcoming books in human rights law, constitutionalism, and the rule of law. There were also two soft skills sessions on research support, research visibility, and outreach. The series was convened by our new Head of Research, Prof Başak Çalı, and our Research Manager, Dr Christos Kypraios, supported by our Research Assistant, Sarah Ourednickova.



Bonavero Graduate Research Forum

The overarching goal of the BGRF convenors this academic year was to continue cultivating a supportive community for graduate legal researchers working in human rights law at Oxford.

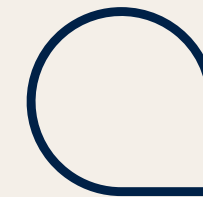
The BGRF had a busy year where postgraduate students shared their ongoing research and received peer feedback. During lively forum sessions in Hilary and Michaelmas terms, fourteen students presented their research, with other students offering thoughtful commentary. DPhil student Daniel Cloney reflected on the value of presenting his project at the forum, saying:

'It was a real gift to have so much expertise in the room to reflect on my project, and although the group is diverse in perspectives, they were all really generous in spirit. The feedback gave me a great confidence boost and lots to think about going forward.'

The forum also hosted three skills workshops. In Michaelmas, Dr Rhona Smith led an informative session on human rights research methodologies. The Hilary term workshop focused on the publication process, featuring a discussion titled *The Lifecycle of Publishing* with Professor Liz Fisher as the keynote speaker. The workshop facilitated a dynamic exchange between an intergenerational panel of faculty members and students who shared their experiences as published authors and editors.

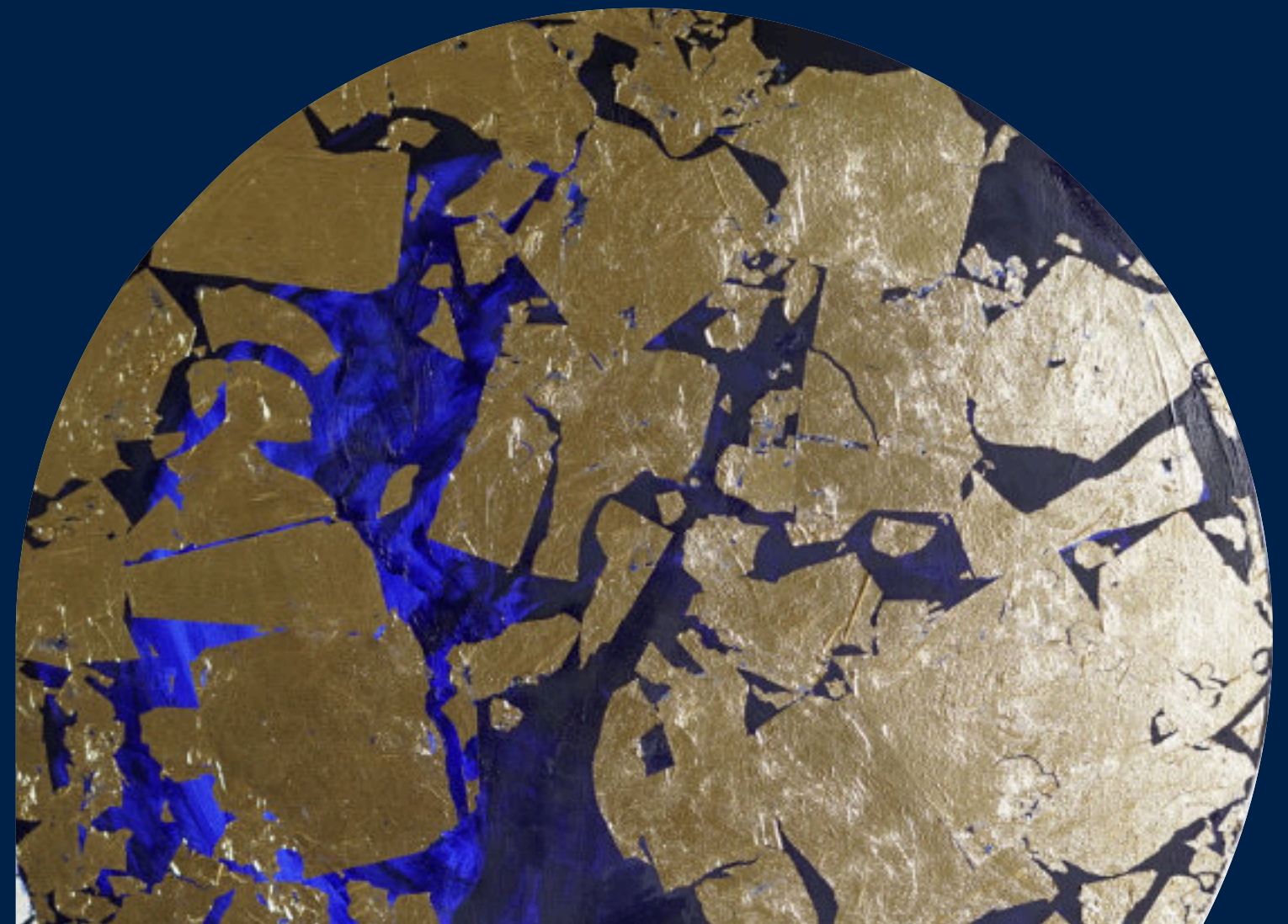
In Trinity, a half-day writing workshop paired 8 student presenters with faculty members who served as their discussants and provided helpful insights on students' academic writing. Professor Jonathan Herring delivered a keynote talk, offering valuable academic writing tips and best practices.

The presentations, feedback, and skills workshops significantly enhanced the research competencies of the BGRF's postgraduate members and enriched the community of graduate research students in human rights at Oxford. The convenors this year were Katie Pentney, Konrad Ksiazek, Amy Kerr & Gideon Basson.



Bonavero Programmes

It has been another busy year for Programmes. We were delighted to host the final rounds of the Price Moot Court Competition in person here in Oxford for the first time since 2019. We also welcomed Research Visitors from across the globe, and our Student Fellowship Programme was once again able to offer valuable work experience to sixteen students who were placed at senior courts, leading human rights organisations, and public interest law centres across the world. In addition, we continued our partnership with Turpin & Miller and the Centre for Criminology in running legal clinics for prisoners facing deportation.



Price Moot Court Competition 2023-24

This year saw the 17th Annual Price Media Law Moot Court Competition with regional rounds taking place in six regions of the world (Asia Pacific, the Middle East, South Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe). Some were held in person, and some online.

This year's moot problem focused on cutting edge issues in artificial intelligence, media law, and freedom of expression. We were delighted to be able once again host the final International Rounds of the Competition at Oxford between 15th - 19th April 2024.

This year's competition saw eighty-nine teams participating in total, with thirty-two teams advancing to the International Rounds.

After a hard-fought Final against Singapore Management University, the University of Chicago team emerged as Champions of this year's competition. Their team comprised Elisabeth Snyder, Inanna Khansa (who was awarded the best Speaker in the Finals), Zoë Osborn, and Vikram Ramaswamy.

The Price Moot has always been more than a Moot Court competition. Participants this year had the opportunity to attend the Annual Media Law Lecture delivered by Nani Jansen Reventlow titled 'Free Speech, Power, and Liberation', engage with Antonia Cherevko and Julia Haas at a Q&A organised by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Representative on Freedom of the Media (OSCE RFoM) on their work in this field, and discuss hot button issues at the intersection of media law, technology, and human rights law with the Final Bench judges comprising of Mark Stephens, Kate O'Regan and Juliana da Cunha Mota.

For more information about the vibrant moot community of judges, coaches, organisers, and of course the founders who keep the Price Moot going, the [brochure is available here](#). We are deeply grateful to all those around the world who make the Moot possible - the Regional coordinators and their teams: Northern Europe Rounds - Nada AbouelSeoud, Americas Rounds - Thomas Paddock, South Asia - Nidhi Singh, Tejaswita Kharel and Anumita Sarkar, Africa Rounds - Sanya Samtani, and Middle East Rounds - Ahmed Khalifa and Ola Nagy, as well as those who so generously donate to the Moot, specifically Alan Weiler and Jonathan Blake.



Final Results

Winners	University of Chicago
Runner Up	Singapore Management University
Best Oralist in the Final	Inanna Khansa
Best Oralist	Domen Bogdan, University of Ljubljana and Tanya Cielo Adiong, University of the Philippines
Best Oralist Runner up	Brian Joseph Mahubay Unabia, University of San Carlos
Best Memorials	Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE), Faculty of Law
Best Memorials Runner up	National law school of India University Bangalore
Jonathan Blake Spirit of the Competition Award	Phoenicia University

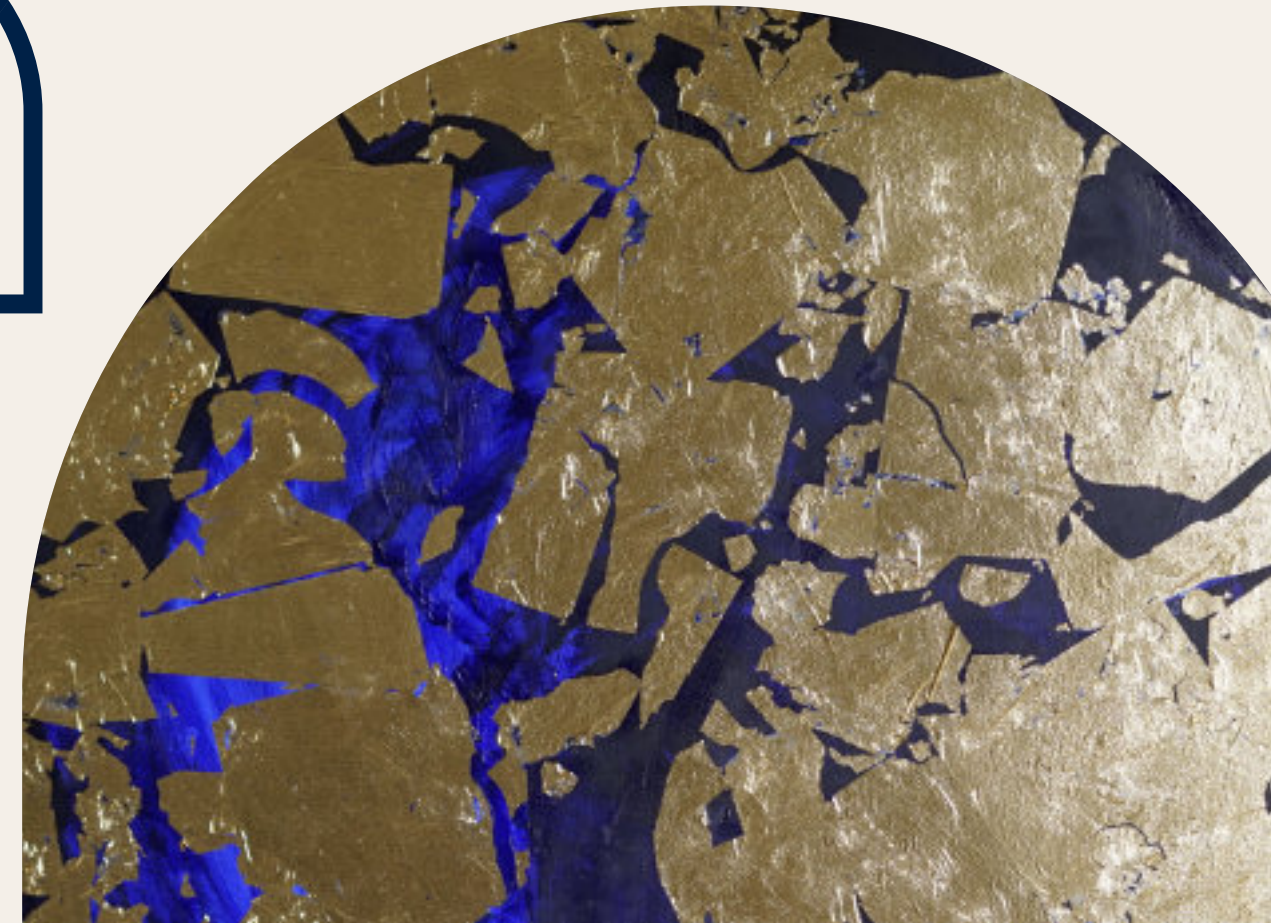
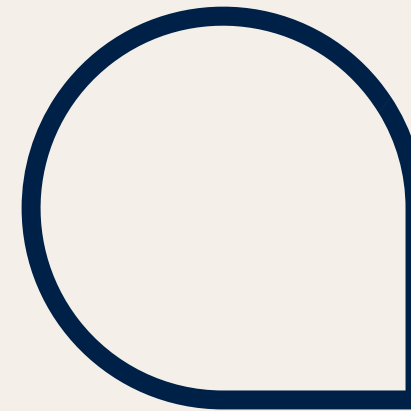
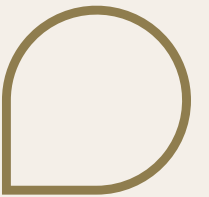
Huntercombe Prison Clinics

Our two collaborative legal aid clinics run with the Centre for Criminology and Oxford law firm Turpin & Miller ran successfully again this year. At the clinics, Oxford University students assist solicitors with providing immigration advice to foreign national prisoners in the UK.

The first clinic, launched in 2018, provides legal assistance to [foreign national men at HMP Huntercombe](#), and the second, launched in 2023, is an online clinic assisting [foreign national women at other British prisons](#).

Both clinics address an urgent human rights need, given that most foreign national prisoners who face deportation never obtain legal representation due to the cuts in legal aid over a decade ago. This year at HMP Huntercombe, 52 men holding 28 different nationalities were assisted, and at the women's clinic, 22 women were assisted, from prisons including HMP Bronzefield, HMP Downview, HMP East Sutton Park, HMP Eastwood Park, HMP Send, HMP New Hall, and HMP Peterborough. The clinics give Oxford University students hands-on experience with immigration and asylum law and help them to develop careers in field.

As in previous rounds, the legal aid clinic at HMP Huntercombe was made possible through a generous grant by the AB Charitable Trust, whom we would like to thank for their continuous support.



Summer Fellowships and Reports

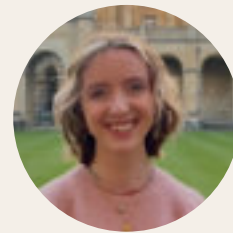
Reflections

Established in 2018, the Bonavero Student Fellowships programme is one of the flagship programmes at the Bonavero.

[The programme](#) offers current Oxford students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of and engagement with human rights law by spending their summers working at one of a [diverse array of organisations](#), some here in the UK and some further afield.

The 2024 application cycle witnessed a record-breaking forty-three applications, culminating in the selection of seventeen outstanding Oxford students for internships with leading organisations such as AIRE Centre (UK), the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law (UK), the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (UK), Dejusticia (Colombia), the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR, Germany), Equal Rights Trust (UK), the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance – International IDEA (the Netherlands), JUSTICE (UK), the Namibian Supreme Court, Public Law Project (UK), REDRESS (UK), Reprieve (UK), The Socio-Economic Rights Institute (SERI, South Africa), and Turpin & Miller (UK). In addition, this year, our collaboration with [Oxford Pro Bono Publico](#) provided a clerkship at the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (Tanzania) for one student.

The administration of the Bonavero Student Fellowships programme is undertaken by our dedicated Programmes Administrator, Sarah Norman. As in previous rounds, the programme was made possible through the generous contributions of the AB Charitable Trust and Eric Lewis, whom we would like to thank for their continuous support.



Lauren Fox

I had a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding experience during the Summer Fellowship with Turpin Miller. I applied for the Fellowship in order to deepen my knowledge and experience of the field of immigration and asylum law. I was particularly keen to take the opportunity to meet new clients and take first instructions through the legal aid clinic at HMP Huntercombe.

Completing the Summer Fellowship has affirmed my aim to work in this area of law, and has given me invaluable practical experience. I particularly enjoyed the wide variety of work I was able to complete during the Fellowship. I have since furthered my knowledge through the MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice at Oxford, where my dissertation has been informed by my experiences during the Fellowship. I hope to continue this research through undertaking a DPhil in Criminology. I am very grateful to everyone who made the Summer Fellowship possible.



Koshika Krishna

My fellowship experience was intellectually rigorous, inspiring, and reaffirmed my passion towards human rights and supporting the rights of Palestinian refugees. I gained practical learnings around application of international law, UN privileges and immunities, and the Agency's gender mainstreaming strategies within its Jordan Operations.

This fellowship is a fantastic opportunity not only to immerse oneself within a UN Agency's legal operations in fulfilment of a challenging mandate but also to experience the wonderful culture of Jordan. In the three months of work, I have become more confident in my application of contract, administration, and human rights law as well as experienced personal growth as I have travelled across Jordan.



Siddharth Saxena

The Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law is an excellent organisation to work at for anyone interested in public law and projects related to the rule of law. I was already interested in a career in academia and research when I began my fellowship, and it further solidified my resolve. From a more substantive perspective, researching a topic—review and oversight mechanisms for counter-terrorism law, policy, and practice—that I have not engaged with previously in my research led to me drawing many interesting connections between the two.

These insights continue to remain relevant to my ongoing research in other areas of public law and the rule of law. Secondly, the fellowship helped me discover new topics that I would be interested in researching in the future, which I would not have found if I had not had the opportunity to undertake this work.



International IDEA Roundtable

Bonaverio UNESCO Judicial Symposium



Constitutionalizing Rights in the 21st Century – A Comparative Workshop for Constitution Makers

On 20 and 21 June 2024, the Bonaverio Institute and The Constitution Building Programme of The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), hosted a workshop on the drafting of Bills of Rights in contemporary constitutional reform processes. This workshop marked the beginning of a new partnership between

Bonaverio and International IDEA and brought together constitution-makers from a range of countries, including Belize, Barbados, The Gambia, Guyana, Jamaica, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Trinidad and Tobago, where processes of constitutional reform are under discussion.

On the first day, Sumit Bisarya, Head of the Constitution Building Programme at International IDEA, outlined contemporary trends in the drafting of bills of rights. Kate O'Regan, the Director of the Bonaverio, then explored five key questions relating to the architecture of bills of rights: should limitations and derogations of rights be permitted, and if so in respect of which rights and how? Who should bear obligations under bills of rights? What is the nature of the obligations imposed by bills of rights? What is the role of interpretive clauses in bills of rights? And how should enforcement, including standing and remedies, be addressed in bills of rights? Jeff King (University College London) discussed contemporary debates relating to the inclusion of economic and social rights in constitutions. Lavanya Rajamani, (University of Oxford,) Katya Aristova (Bonaverio Institute) and Sharon Hickey (International IDEA) assessed approaches to entrenching the right to a healthy environment. Christina Murray (University of Cape Town) outlined the challenges that may arise when providing for public participation in constitution-making, drawing on her involvement in constitution-making in, among other places, South Africa, Fiji, and Kenya. Tracy Robinson (University of the West Indies) analysed current approaches to addressing gender equality in a bill of rights. And finally Sebastien Becker (International IDEA) examined how we might reconfigure constitutional rights to address issues raised by the digital world. In each session, constitution makers also presented insights from the processes under way in their own jurisdiction.



On 29 September 2023, the Bonaverio Institute and UNESCO hosted an International Judicial Symposium on Freedom of Expression at Mansfield College.

The Symposium convened fifteen Chief Justices and senior judges both from domestic courts and a range of regional courts, including the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human

Rights, the East African Court of Justice, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Court of Justice, and the Caribbean Court of Justice.

The Symposium enabled the judges to share their experiences in strengthening the rule of law and protecting freedom of expression, both cornerstones of free democratic societies. The discussion also focused on challenges arising from the digital environment, such as generative artificial intelligence.

On 28 September, we also hosted the [Bonaverio Institute-UNESCO-FCDO Global Conference for the International Day for Universal Access to Information \(IDUAI\) 2023](#). Both the Symposium and the Global Conference were managed by Dr Christos Kypraios, then Programme Coordinator of the [Bonaverio-UNESCO Multilingual Massive Open Online Course on Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists](#) and related projects.



Professor Naz Ghanea: Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief



It has been quite a whirlwind since starting the human rights Special Procedures assignment as UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief in August 2022.

This mandate is one of the thematic [Special Procedures](#) of the UN Human Rights Council, the others being the smaller number of country mandates. Mandate holders are appointed by the UN Human Rights Council as independent experts who work on a pro bono capacity to champion the right assigned to them.

The [mandate on freedom of religion or belief](#) has existed since 1986 and is one of the longest standing UN mandates. The scope of the freedom is 'thought, conscience and religion' and understood to include this freedom as upheld in Article 18 of the ICCPR, as further interpreted in general comment 22. It also includes non-discrimination on the basis of religion or belief and taking forward cases of violations in the name of religion or belief. Regrettably, the cases of violations of freedom of religion or belief are incredibly numerous and, with the resource limitations, we are only able to take forward a representative sample of them. Others are raised in the numerous engagements of the mandate, with State representatives and civil society, in meetings, public events, in reporting and engaging others.

One early observation in the mandate was the realisation that the mandate has never had the opportunity to engage with some key regional human rights systems and make its thirty-eight years of mandate observations – from a rich body of annual [thematic reports](#) to the UN General Assembly and Human Rights Council, reports on over [forty country visits](#) by the Special Rapporteur, and extensive [communications](#) – available to them in

issues that arise related to this and related rights. It's therefore been very rewarding to be able to do so, including by interacting in person with the African Court of Human Rights, to engage in exchanges at the Interamerican Court of Human Rights, and to meet with the Organisation of American States. Joint work has also been taken forward with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, online briefings held with them, and joining together on a number of shared interests.

As well as carrying forward the routine duties and load of the mandate, facilitating collaborations between human rights actors and encouraging the integration of freedom of religion or belief in the existing work of different entities – in order to really mainstream and activate this human right – has been very rewarding. One such arena has been in relation to the growing work of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in this area, with the unique and strong interactions they have with parliamentarians around the world.

Being in a mandate like this is incredibly eye opening in seeing how states and UN entities engage with their human rights obligations, how they interpret and apply them in practice, and how one can seek to advance human rights compliance. It is simultaneously inspiring and incredibly heavy. I deeply appreciate colleagues for their ongoing encouragement, the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights for having supported a Research Assistant to give some support my work last year, and [OPBP](#) for committing to offer research in support of my next report to the UN Human Rights Council.

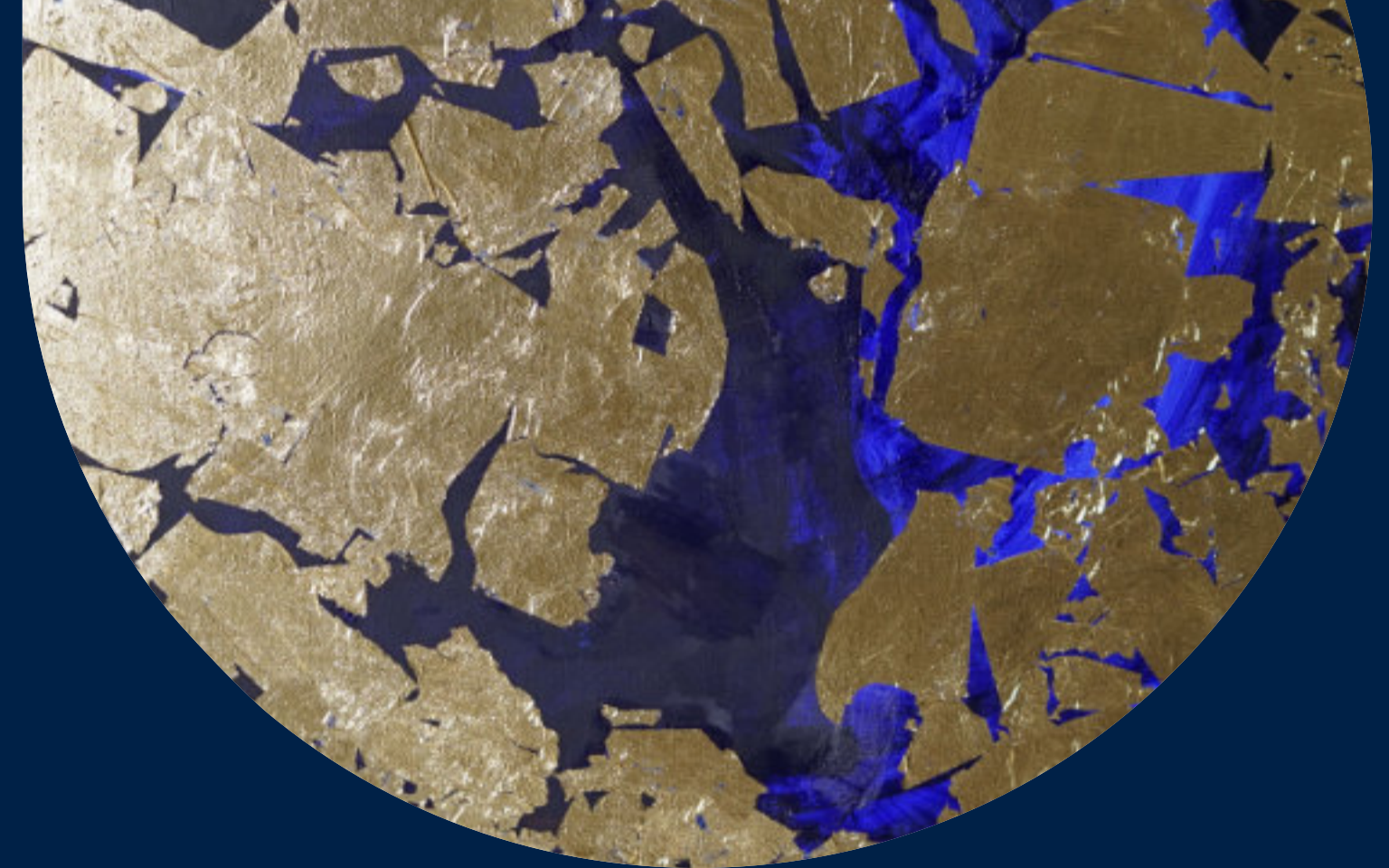


WATCH NAZILA GHANEA,
UN SPECIAL RAPPOREUR

2024 NOTRE DAME PRIZE
FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



In 2023-24, we hosted over ninety events including discussion groups, public lectures, book launches, and roundtable workshops. Most of these events were open to the public, and many of them were either in hybrid or online format, which enabled attendance from across the world. We were delighted to welcome leading human rights scholars and activists as well as judges and legal practitioners as speakers which sparked engaging and thought-provoking discussions. Most of these events are recorded and are available on our website under the Watch and Listen button.



Bonavero Events

VISIT OUR WATCH AND LISTEN WEBSITE PAGE 

Bonavero Discussion Group

Eric Barendt Annual Media Law Lecture



The Bonavero Discussion Group seeks to provide a forum for lively discussion of recently published books, recently decided cases, or matters of controversy of debate.

It has been running since 2016 and the discussions are ordinarily held in the Gilly Leventis Meeting Room several times a term, on Tuesday lunchtimes. The Discussion Group is open to members of the public, who may attend in person or online.

This year we hosted ten discussions, including a discussion of the International Court of Justice's provisional measures in the South Africa v Israel case (on 26 January 2024), and a discussion of the European Court of Human Rights recent decision on climate change, Verein KlimaSeniorinnen Schweiz and Others v Switzerland (10 June 2024), a discussion led by Justice Steven Majiedt of the South African Constitutional Court on the court's adjudication of economic and social rights (25 October 2023), and a discussion of the US forced labour import ban and its effects (4 June 2024).



On 17 April 2024, the Bonavero Institute hosted the Eric Barendt Annual Media Law Lecture for the fifth time. The lecture is in honour of Professor Eric Barendt, Goodman Professor of Media Law at UCL, and a globally recognised expert in freedom of speech and the media.

The Lecture is also sponsored by the Journal of Media Law which ordinarily publishes the text of the lectures each year. Previous lecturers have included Professor Monroe Price, director of the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Global Communication Studies at the Annenberg School for Communication, in recognition of whom the Bonavero's Price Media Moot is named, Dr Damian Tambini, a distinguished policy fellow in the Department of Media and Communications at the LSE, Judge Robert Spano, former President of the European Court of Human Rights, and Professor Vicki Jackson, Laurence H Tribe Professor of Constitutional Law at Harvard Law School.

In 2024, the lecture was delivered by **Nani Jansen Reventlow** (photographed above), an award-winning human rights lawyer who is the founder of Systemic Justice, a new civil society organisation that seeks to transform how law works for communities seeking racial, social, and economic justice. Nani is also the former founder and director of the Digital Freedom Fund. Her leadership at the intersection of technology, democracy, and rights saw her recognised on Politico's 2021 list of visionary technology leaders in Europe. Nani has also served as one of the moderators of the Symposium on Strength and Solidarity for Human Rights, one of the programmes at the Bonavero Institute.

Nani's thought-provoking lecture explored the contemporary ecosystem of free speech and its facilitation of public debate through asking important questions such as who gets to speak, who gets to be heard, and who decides what should be amplified or silenced. The lecture was held during the final week of the Price Media Moot competition and was well attended by moot participants from around the world.

Photo above by John Cairns.



The Oxford Business and Human Rights Network

Law & Democracy Network



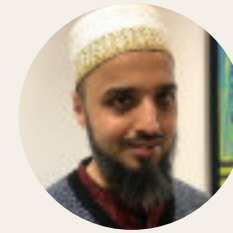
The Oxford Business and Human Rights Network (OxBHR) aims to provide a forum for critical and interdisciplinary debate on issues of business and human rights. [Ayako Hatano](#) convened the OxBHR in the 2023/24 academic year.

The Network hosted a series of insightful talks, from Prof. Yuko Nishitani's exploration of business and human rights from an Asian perspective to Prof. Kish Parella's examination of corporate governance and

international law, highlighting the complexities of holding corporations accountable. OxBHR also engaged early career scholars' academic presentations. Daniel Litwin provided a critical map of human rights and economic inequality discourse, emphasizing business as uncharted territory. Lorentz Wielenga tackled the uneasy relationship between climate litigation and the separation of powers. Eirini Koutsoukou brought a fresh perspective by discussing the synergy between business, human rights, and corporate social responsibility through Sen's Capability Approach. The aftermath of COP28 was critically examined by Dr. Ievgeniia Kopytsia, who discussed the conference's outcomes and the road ahead for climate policy.

Collaboration with practitioners is a significant aspect of OxBHR's activities. The conversation with SOMO, the Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations, focused on transparent supply chains and labour rights, underscoring the importance of civil society in promoting human rights. Jake White from WWF UK provided valuable insights into the role of businesses in environmental conservation.

The Network also featured special events, such as the screening of "The Tribunal," a powerful documentary by Malcolm Rogge that delved into business and human rights issues. The Network also partnered with Bonavero Discussion Group and Feminist Jurisprudence Discussion Group for an event featuring Prof. José E. Alvarez and Prof. Megan Campbell, who discussed CEDAW and property rights. Another notable event was the book launch of Dr. Katya Aristova's work on tort litigation against transnational corporations, which sparked engaging discussions on legal accountability.



The Law and Democracy Network is a forum for interdisciplinary and global conversations on major issues concerning law and democracy in the modern world.

With the Bonavero as its home, the Network was started in

Trinity Term 2024 with Moiz Tundawala, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, and Rupavardhini Balakrishnan Raju, DPhil in Law candidate as its co-convenors.

The Network is founded on the belief that some of the most pressing issues at the intersection of law and democracy would benefit from the perspectives of scholars from across disciplines. With that in mind, the three events that the Network has scheduled so far bring legal scholars in conversation with historians, and scholars of political thought and intellectual history.

For our inaugural event, we had Shruti Kapila (Cambridge) and Tarunabh Khaitan (LSE) discuss the ongoing Indian elections, by offering a historical and constitutional perspective on the role of political parties in its democratic life. The second event brought Aziz Rana (Boston) into a dialogue with Faisal Devji (Oxford) on the relationship between law and liberalism in today's world. Their conversation specifically focused on Rana's newly published critical account of the American culture of constitutional veneration and its implications for popular politics. In the final event of the term, Salmoli Choudhuri (NLS) will discuss a paper co-authored with Moiz Tundawala (Oxford) on the place of law in M.K. Gandhi's philosophy of civil resistance.

The Network has already garnered wide interest within the global community of scholars working on law and democracy, and our events have been well attended both in Oxford and beyond. We hope to build on this momentum in the coming terms, by inviting leading academics and promising early career researchers to share their ideas and scholarship with us. Our plan is to also organize a doctoral and postdoctoral colloquium in due course.



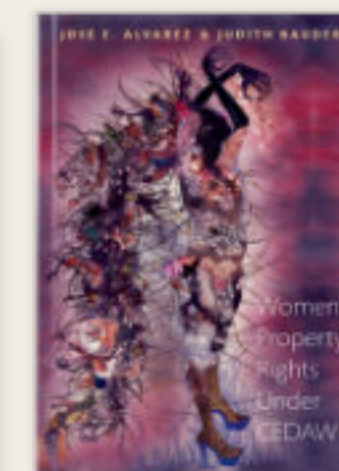
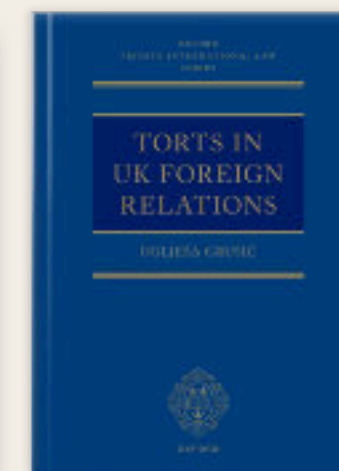
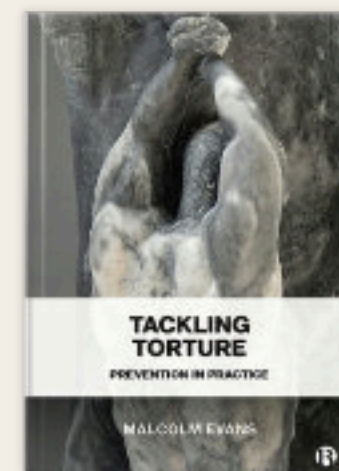
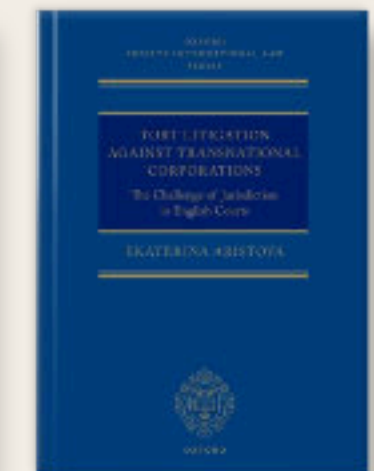
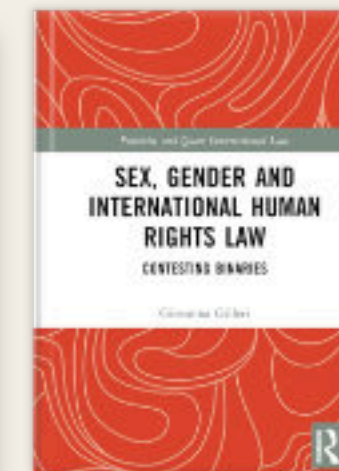
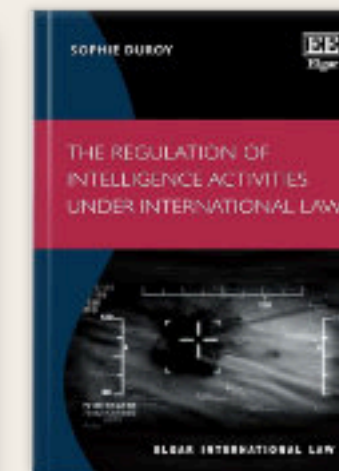
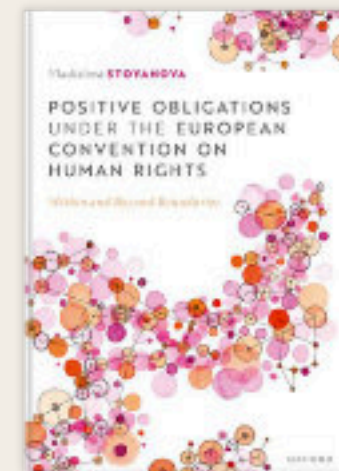
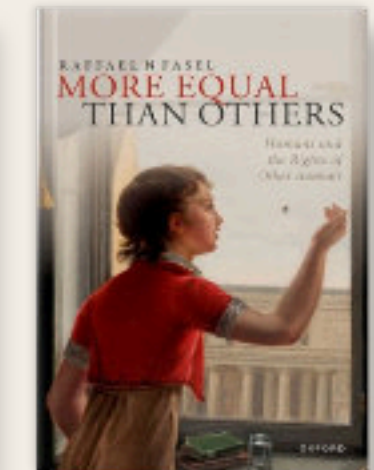
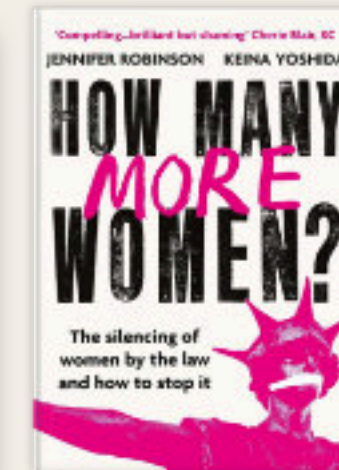
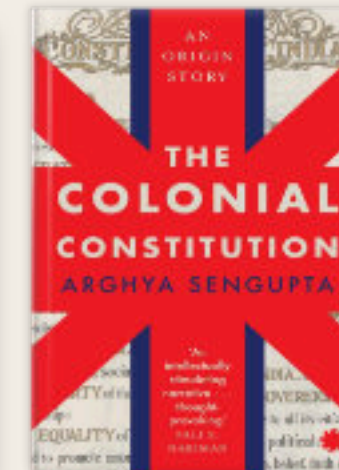
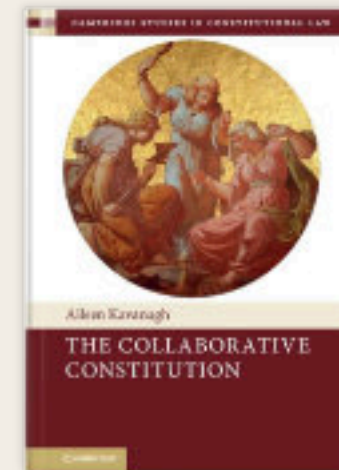
Book launches

The Bonavero Institute hosted seven book panel discussions this year and four Bonavero Discussion Groups focussed on a newly published book. We commenced the year with a panel discussion of Bonavero Academic Affiliate, Sir Malcolm Evans' book, *Tackling Torture – Prevention in Practice*. In writing the book, Malcolm drew on over ten years' experience of chairing the UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture to assess what the system has achieved and has not achieved. Four panelists discussed the book: Rupert Skilbeck, Director of REDRESS, an international human rights organisation which supports victims of torture to bring cases to obtain justice and reparation (and where Bonavero, sends a Student Fellow each year as an intern); Juan Mendez, a Research Visitor at the Bonavero, who was the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, and Degrading Punishment; Dr Silvia Casale, who has worked as a member of the Parole Board for England and Wales and who chaired the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture for eight years and the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture for three years; and Professor Rosa Freedman of the University of Reading, a leading scholar of the UN human rights system.

The other book discussions were of Jennifer Robinson's new book *How Many More Women?*, Sophie Duroy's *The Regulation of Intelligence Activities under International Law*, Aileen Kavanagh's *The Collaborative Constitution*, Uglješa Grušić's *Torts in UK Foreign Relations*, Vladislava Stoyanova's *Positive Obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights*, and Ekaterina Aristova's *Tort Litigation against Transnational Corporations: The Challenge of Jurisdiction in the UK Courts*.

The four discussions at the Bonavero Discussion Group were of Arghya Sengupta's *The Colonial Constitution*, Giovanni Gilleri's *Sex, Gender and International Human Rights Law: Contesting Binaries*, Raffael Fasel's *More Equal Than Others: Humans and the Rights, of Other Animals*, and José Alvarez and Judith Bauder's *Women's Property Rights under CEDAW*.

These discussions of recent scholarly works, many published by authors associated with the Bonavero, provide a valuable forum for debating new ideas and approaches to human rights.



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“We must remember that cohesive and healthy societies rest on three pillars – peace and security, development, the rule of law, and respect for human rights.”

Kofi Annan (1938 - 2018). Former UN Secretary General (1997 - 2006)

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