



**Utrecht
University**

SIM

Netherlands Institute
of Human Rights

**SIM Summer School 2026
International Human Rights Law: An Introduction
6-10 July 2026**

Course Directors: Dr. Hana van Ooijen h.m.a.e.vanooijen@uu.nl, Dr. Halefom Abraha h.h.abraha@uu.nl; Programme Assistant: Giulia Belgrado g.belgrado@uu.nl

Programme

Monday 6 July 2026 (The course will take place in Room 0,19 ground floor of Janskerkhof 2-3)		
Time	Activity	Description
9.00-9.30	Registration	Tea and coffee
9.30-9.40	Welcome	Dr. Hana van Ooijen and Dr. Halefom Abraha
9.40-12.30	Lecture with Discussion	The Human Rights Idea: Foundations and Historical Overview by Prof. Brianne McGonigle Leyh
12.30-1.30	Lunch	Provided by the SIM Summer School
1.30-3.00	Lecture and Activity	The Work of the UN Treaty Body System of Human Rights Protection Workshop on engaging with the UN Treaty Body System of Human Rights Protection by Dr Tina Stavrinaki
3.15-4.30	Lecture and Activity	The European Convention on Human Rights - Protection in the Midst of Political Turmoil by Prof. Antoine Buyse

Tuesday 7 July 2026		
Time	Activity	Description
9.30-11.00	Lecture and Activity	Human rights topic 'prohibition of torture, with a gender lens' with discussion of the summer school assignment Dr. Katharine Fortin and Dr Fleur van Leeuwen
11.15-12.30	Lecture and Activity	Workshop on Regional Human Rights Systems: Africa and Americas by Prof. Javier Couso Salas
12.30-1.30	Lunch	Provided by the SIM Summer School

1.30-3.00	Lecture and Activity	ECHR and EU system of fundamental rights protection by Dr. Anneloes Kuiper
3:15-4.30	Lecture and Activity	Business and Human Rights by Dr. Lucas Roorda
5.00-7.00	Welcome reception	USS Opening Ceremony, organized by Utrecht Summer School (Garden of the Central Museum, Agnietenstraat 1, Utrecht – Registration is required here

Wednesday 8 July 2026		
Time	Activity	Description
9.30-12.15	Lecture and Activity	Workshop on Equality and Discrimination in Human Rights Law by Dr. Alexandra Timmer
12.15-1.15	Lunch	Provided by the SIM Summer School.
1.15-3.00	Lecture and activity	Workshop on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by Dr Lorena Sosa
3.15-4.30	Lecture and Activity	Right to Development by Dr Roman Teshome

Thursday 9 July 2026		
Time	Activity	Description
9.30-11.00	Lecture and Activity	Statelessness and the Right to a Nationality by Dr Caia Vlieks
11.15-12.30	Lecture and Activity	Climate and Human Rights, by Dr. Julie Fraser
12.30-1.30	Lunch	Provided by the SIM Summer School
1.30-3.00	Lecture and Activity	AI and Human Rights by Dr Halefom Abraha
3.15-4.30	Final Assignment Preparation	Students prepare for moot court

Friday 10 July 2026		
Time	Activity	Description
9.30	Check out of accommodation	
10.00-12.00	Final Assignment – Moot Court Activity	Group presentations of assignment with Dr. Katharine Fortin and Dr Fleur van Leeuwen
12.30-13.30	Lunch	Provided by the SIM Summer School



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13.30-14.00	Awarding of Certificates	SIM
2.30-4.00	Panel – Human Rights and Digital Technologies	To be confirmed