

## SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL STUDENT HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

# UN Human Rights Council: Ten Years On

**Saturday 5 March 2016, University of Nottingham**

**Law and Social Sciences Building, University of Nottingham  
Programme**

09.00	Welcome refreshments and registration	Atrium/Room B62
09.15	Conference opening <b>Professor Dominic McGoldrick</b>	Room B62
09.30	<b>Morning Session</b>	Room B62

Chaired by **Professor Dominic McGoldrick**, Professor of International Human Rights Law and HRLC Co-Director

*The HRC at Ten: Looking to the future whilst learning from the past*

**Dr Rosa Freedman**, Senior Lecturer at Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham

*The Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council: strengths and weaknesses*

**Mr Karim Ghezraoui**, Chief Officer a.i, Special Procedures Branch, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

11.00	Refreshments	Atrium
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11.15	Delegates choose between two student-led discussion groups, which will run simultaneously:
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**Panel 1: Law v. Politics: The added value of the Human Rights Council?**

Room A1, Chaired by Hina Ali

*A critical evaluation of the extent to which the UN Human Rights Council has overcome the shortcomings of the former UN Commission on Human Rights*

**Caroline Sweeney**, Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway

*Politics beyond human rights: regional alliances within the Universal Periodic Review*

**Michaela Jurakova**, University of Nottingham

*Curing the plague of delayed reporting: a step towards implementing effective human rights*

**Justin Jos**, University of Exeter

**Panel 2: Case studies: UN human rights principles in action**

Room B1, Chaired by Christopher Lamoureux

*Breaking the culture of impunity? Holding States accountable for human rights violations in the United Nations Human Rights Council: a case study of Sri Lanka*

**Thamil Venthana Ananthavinayagan**, Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway

*More than an ignorant bystander: the accountability of China for North Korea's human rights violations*

**Wing Yee Kwan**, University of Nottingham

*The need for judicial approach: a case for a World Court of Human Rights*

**Silvia Lorenzo Perez**, Brunel University London

12.45	Lunch	Atrium
13.30	<b>Afternoon Session</b>  Chaired by <b>Professor David Harris</b> , Professor Emeritus and HRLC Co-Director  <i>What the Universal Periodic Review means for States</i> <b>Ms Lucy Richardson</b> , PhD Candidate at The Graduate Institute, Geneva and former member of the New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations  <i>Advancing human rights through the Universal Periodic Review: a critical tool for NGO engagement</i> <b>Ms Aoife Hegarty</b> , Programme Manager at Universal Periodic Review Info, Geneva	Room B62
15.00	Refreshments	Atrium
15.15	Delegates choose between two student-led discussion groups, which will run simultaneously:	
	<div> <b>Panel 3: The Universal Periodic Review: A useful tool for protecting rights?</b>            Room A1, Chaired by Mark Dawson   <i>Human rights promotion through diplomacy: explaining States' level of activism in the Universal Periodic Review</i>  <b>Pilar Elizalde</b>, London School of Economics and Political Science   <i>The effectiveness of the Human Rights Council's innovative mechanism</i>  <b>Alice Storey</b>, Birmingham City University   <i>The Universal Periodic Review and its engagement with Islam and the death penalty</i>  <b>Amna Nazir</b>, Birmingham City University         </div> <div> <b>Panel 4: Human rights and vulnerable groups: challenges for the UN</b>            Room B1, Chaired by Yunan Shen   <i>The challenges of accessing and realising your rights: women's economic and social rights</i>  <b>Martha Tengesha</b>, University of Nottingham   <i>The right to nationality for children: a study of nationality laws in the GCC Countries</i>  <b>Talal Alrasbi</b>, University of Hull   <i>The post armed conflict period and rehabilitation of properties for persons with disabilities for participation in public and political life</i>  <b>Ivan Mugabi</b>, Cardiff University         </div>	
16.45	Closing Remarks from <b>Professor David Harris</b> , Professor Emeritus and HRLC Co-Director	Room B62