



Human Rights Leadership: Challenges, Perspectives, Futures

12- 13 December 2023

[Bowland Theatre](#), Berrick Saul Building, Campus West

Please note that this is a draft programme and is subject to change.

The Centre for Applied Human Rights turns 15!

CAHR@15 is a time for celebration – We celebrate generations of *masters' students* who have engaged critically with the law and politics of human rights on our interdisciplinary programmes and the many CAHR *doctoral researchers* who advanced the field of applied human rights. We are indebted to the over 100 *human rights defenders* from across the globe who found respite and protection at CAHR, thus enabling them to continue their activism. We recognise our *teaching, research and administrative support staff* who, simply put, make CAHR CAHR.

CAHR@15 is also a time for reflection – As an *activist centre* situated in a university for public good, our research, knowledge exchange, teaching, protective and advocacy activities are anchored in real-world human rights and humanitarian challenges and opportunities. At times such as these, the CAHR community must reflect on the challenges, perspectives, and futures of human rights leadership.

CAHR masters and doctoral students and alumni, former CAHR human rights defenders fellows, the Centre's institutional partners and collaborators, members of the York local community and the global human rights network, will join us in addressing the following overarching questions:

- As an international movement, how should we talk about human rights 'leadership' – are there alternative or better vocabularies?
- Where is human rights leadership located – in the minds of individuals, in relationships and interactions, in structures and hierarchies?
- How can leadership and organisation for human rights activism be developed, supported, and strengthened in the context of competing crises?
- How can we critically examine leadership within our own organisations and networks in a context of diminishing civil and political space?

- To what extent are values negotiable in human rights leadership and how does context-sensitivity affect modes of organising and leadership (hierarchical/horizontal)?

Programme

12 December 2023 – Themes and sites of leadership

9:00 - 9:30 Registration and morning coffee

9:30 - 9:45 Welcome

Nina Caspersen, Associate Dean (Research) Faculty of Social Sciences, University of York

Tony Heron, Head of Department, Politics and International Relations

T. T. Arvind, Head of Department, York Law School

9:45 - 10:00 Introduction and outline of the day

Paul Gready, Co-Director, Centre for Applied Human Rights, Professor, Department, Politics and International Relations, UNESCO Chair, Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Expansion of Political Space

10:00 - 12:00 Leadership, conflict & peace

Chair & moderation:

Nina Caspersen, Associate Dean (Research) Faculty of Social Sciences, University of York

Panellists:

- Ana Deida, Resguardo Indígena de Huellas Caloto, Colombia
- HRD, Asia Pacific
- Johnny Rebours, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Lebanon
- Morward Sherzad, Afghanistan
- Roman Avramenko, Truth Hounds, Ukraine (online)

12:00 - 13:00 Lunch

13:00 - 14:30 Leadership, transition & transformation

Chair & moderation:

Sanna Eriksson, Centre for Women's Studies

Panellists:

- Natalia Duminica, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (online)
- José Gutierrez Danton, Centre for Applied Human Rights &

Adelaida Maria Ibarra Padilla, York Law School

- HRD, Venezuela
- HRD, Amnesty International

14:30 - 15:00 Coffee and tea

15:00 - 16:30 Leadership & the environment

Facilitators: John Gray, Centre for Applied Human Rights & York Law School and Eric Hoddy, Centre for Applied Human Rights

Panellists:

- HRD, The Philippines (online)
- HRD, Uganda

16:30 'Closing of the Day' Remarks

Charlie Jeffery, Vice-Chancellor, University of York

Followed by the CAHR Art Net Exhibition & Drinks Reception

Exhibition organisers: Pippa Cooper, Emilie Flower and Oliver Harris (Centre for Applied Human Rights)

13 December 2023 – Cross-cutting challenges & potentialities in leadership

9:00 - 9:30 Registration and morning coffee

9:30 - 9:45 Welcome to the Day

David Maughan-Brown, Chair of the CAHR Advisory Board

9:45 - 11:30 Leadership & intersectionality

Chair & moderation:

Ruth Kelly, Centre for Applied Human Rights & Department of Politics and International Relations

Panellists:

- HRD, India
- Hannah Dwyer Smith, Peace Brigades International
- Emma Jackson, Centre for Applied Human Rights
- Juliana Mensah, Department of English and Related Literature (TBC)
- HRD, Kyrgyzstan

11:30 - 11:45 Coffee and Tea

11:45 - 13:00 Leadership & the local

Chair & moderation:

Marilyn Crawshaw, York Human Rights City Network

Panellists:

- Diane Roworth, Reverse the Ban York
- Ida Marie Hansen, Programmes for individuals at Risk, Amnesty International Norway
- HRD, Uganda
- Cindy Leung, Centre for Applied Human Rights & York Law School

13:00 - 13:45 Lunch

13:45 - 15:00 Innovative approaches to leadership – Participatory discussion and small group work

Facilitators: Piergiuseppe Parisi, Centre for Applied Human Rights & York Law School and John Gray, Centre for Applied Human Rights

15:00 - 16:30 Leadership, protection, well-being, resilience & sustainability

Chair & moderation:

Mattia Pinto, Centre for Applied Human Rights & York Law School

Panellists:

- Patricia Bartley, Centre for Applied Human Rights
- Liz Griffin, Social and Climate Justice Leadership Coach, Honorary Professor and Consultant
- Simón Delgado Hurtado, Rights & Security International
- Heba Khalil, Nebraska Wesleyan University (TBC)
- HRD, Zambia

16:30 - 17:00 Reflections

Chair & moderation:

Ioana Cismas, Co-Director, Centre for Applied Human Rights, Professor, York Law School

Interventions by Human Rights Defenders on CAHR's Protective Fellowship Schemes (2023-2024):

- HRD, Jordan

- HRD, Egypt
- HRD, Kenya
- HRD, Somalia
- HRD, Kashmir

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