

Call for Abstracts

The Interaction between Human Rights Law and Migration Law

Human Rights & International Legal Discourse focuses on the interplay between human rights law and other specific domains of international law (see www.hrild.org). The 2010 Fall issue will be dedicated to the interaction between international human rights law and migration law.

To an increasing extent, human rights are at the heart of migration. Given the often vulnerable situation of migrants, human rights law is invoked to protect and enhance their position. Specific mandates by the UN Commission on Human Rights-Human Rights Council on human rights of migrants and on trafficking of persons and the entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, further exemplify the promotion of human rights of migrants in the course of the migratory process and in the countries of immigration. Likewise, the case-law by the European Court of Human Rights on the prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment and the right to family life and privacy, has had an impact on States' immigration and asylum policy.

This interaction between human rights law and migration law raises numerous questions about the degree to which States remain sovereign to regulate immigration and hold responsibility vis-à-vis migrants. Can or should human rights trump the States' concerns and policies about controlled immigration, accompanied by measures of detention, deportation and/or limitation of access to labour markets and social benefits? To what extent do human rights enshrine accountability for the treatment of migrants and, more particularly, those in a particularly vulnerable position like minor children and persons fleeing from war situations? Do human rights affect in any way the accompanying integration processes of immigrants? Is there a distinction in the impact of human rights dependent on their civil, political, cultural, social or economic character? Since these questions arise at a policymaking level as well as in the individual application of migration law, an accompanying issue concerns the (governmental and judicial) policy impact of human rights in matters of migration.

Papers are expected to deal with this relationship and reciprocal impact between human rights law and migration law.

Papers can be main articles (10.000 to 15.000 words) or shorter articles (5.000 to 8.000 words).

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **4 January 2010**. A limited number of abstracts will be selected for the submission of full papers by 15 April 2010, under a peer review process. The thematic human rights and migration issue of *Human Rights & International Legal Discourse* will be published in the Fall of 2010.

Abstracts can be submitted to the editor of HR&ILD, Stefaan Smis, at ssmis@vub.ac.be and to the editor for the thematic issue on the interaction between human rights law and migration law, Dirk Vanheule, at dirk.vanheule@ua.ac.be. Please indicate if the abstract relates to a main article or a shorter article.