

Berkeley

Center on Comparative Equality
& Anti-Discrimination Law



‘24 ANNUAL IMPACT
REPORT

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Letter from the Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

What a year it's been!

The Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law (BCCE) continued our growth, as we approached a total of 1,100 members from every continent but Antarctica, joined by dozens of student research assistants from Berkeley and several other universities, with hundreds of students having enrolled in our multi-university course on Comparative Equality Law since 2020.

The Center's ten working groups, with leadership from across the globe, organized 22 conferences and workshops, all but three of which were presented online. Over one hundred scholars participated in our annual meeting, which was hosted in Bengaluru by the National Law School of India and the Oxford Human Rights Hub. Our two Berkeley EdX web courses on Covid-19 and Global Inequalities and on the Global #MeToo Movement reached students on six continents. In 2025, we hope to launch a third web course, on pay equity, and perhaps a fourth, on global systemic racism. We are in discussions with publishers about our book project on global systemic racism. We have submitted several amicus briefs, policy papers, and reports, working with partner NGOs across the globe. It is exciting to watch the Center grow in strength and influence.

Our principal mission is to expand our understanding of inequality and discrimination through the tools of comparative legal studies, and to transfer that knowledge from those who study inequality to those who enforce anti-discrimination laws. Our objective is not simply to study the problems of inequality and discrimination, but to help activists and advocates use the work of scholars to meaningfully address inequality and discrimination globally. We're committed to mentoring the next generation of equality scholars, advocates, and activists.

Our 2024 Annual Report reviews our work over the past year—our working groups, events, publications and Web courses—and outlines our plans for the future.

We are grateful to everyone who has contributed to the work of the Center over the past year and look forward to a productive and fruitful year ahead.

Warm regards,



David B. Oppenheimer
Clinical Professor of Law
University of California Berkeley, School of Law
Director, Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality
& Anti-Discrimination Law

Full-Time Staff



David Oppenheimer

FACULTY DIRECTOR
Clinical Professor of Law,
UC Berkeley School of Law
Faculty Co-Director,
Pro Bono Program



Charlie Tsunoda

DIRECTOR OF
ADMINISTRATION
Class of 2022, UC Berkeley



Julianna Bass

'23-'24, POSTGRADUATE
RESEARCH FELLOW
Class of 2023, UC Berkeley



Cortelyou Kenney

'24-'25, POSTGRADUATE [JUDY
HEUMANN] RESEARCH FELLOW
Affiliated Fellow at the
Information Society Project,
Yale Law School

Students & Other Volunteers



Laiza A Cabote

WGs: Digital Equality,
Gender-Based
Harassment and Violence
Projects: Annual Report,
Diversity Database



Sahana Chandran

WG: Climate Equality
Projects: January 2025 CLE
Conference, In-
Formazione, Karen
O'Connell Research



Emily Daniel-Papi



Alaina Delsignore

WGs: Climate Equality,
LGBTQI+
Projects: CLE On-Demand
Library, Diversity Database



Lauren Dias

WG: Gender-Based
Harassment and Violence,
Global Systemic Racism
Projects: AESHI, Gender
Discrimination in Family
Courts, Diveristy Database



Kaitlyn El-Sayegh

WG: Equity & Criminal Justice
Projects: January 2025 CLE
Conference, Diversity Database



Shannon Farrell

Editor In-Chief of Annual
Report, E-Journal Student
Editorial Lead, Global #MeToo
Book Promotion Project Lead,
Pay Equity edX Course, Pay
Equity & Living Wage WG



Angel Gao

WG: Digital Equality
Projects: CLE On-Demand
Library



Katy Ghaleh Mahmoudi

WGs: Climate Equality, Equity & Criminal Justice, In-Formazione
Projects: Gender Discrimination in Family Courts, Diversity Database, January 2025 CLE Conference



Natalie Irene Castaneda

WGs: Equity & Criminal Justice, Global Systemic Racism
Projects: Diversity Database, January 2025 CLE Conference, Annual Report



Amandine Locke

WG: Climate Equality, Gender Based Harassment and Violence
Projects: #MeToo Book Promotion, Sexual Harassment and Workplace Health in Australia Report



Noa Marks

WG: Climate Equality
Projects: AESHI, Diversity Database, Global #MeToo Book Marketing



Selina Pacheco

Projects: Demographics Team



Brittany Postle

WG: Disability Rights



Ivette Ramirez Pena Knapp

WGs: Gender-Based Harassment and Violence, In-Formazione, LGBTQI+
Projects: Gender Discrimination in Family Courts, Member Demographics Project, Diversity Database



Praceda Reddy Gaddampally

WG: Gender-Based Harassment and Violence, Global Systemic Racism
Projects: Annual Report, Member Demographics, Diversity Database



Claire Reichle

WG: Climate Equality



Sumayyah Rose Abuelmaatti

WG: Global Systemic Racism, Pay Equity & Living Wage
Projects: January 2025 CLE Conference, Diversity Database, EdX Courses



Amisha Sethi

Projects: Pair-Up Project



Lydia Sidhom

WG: Digital Equality
Projects: Diversity Database, AI and Anti-Discrimination Book, Global Systemic Racism Conference



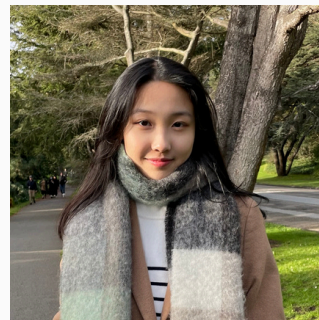
Claire Van Gaalen

Annual Report, Global #MeToo Book Promotion Project, Pay Equity edX Course, Member Demographics Project



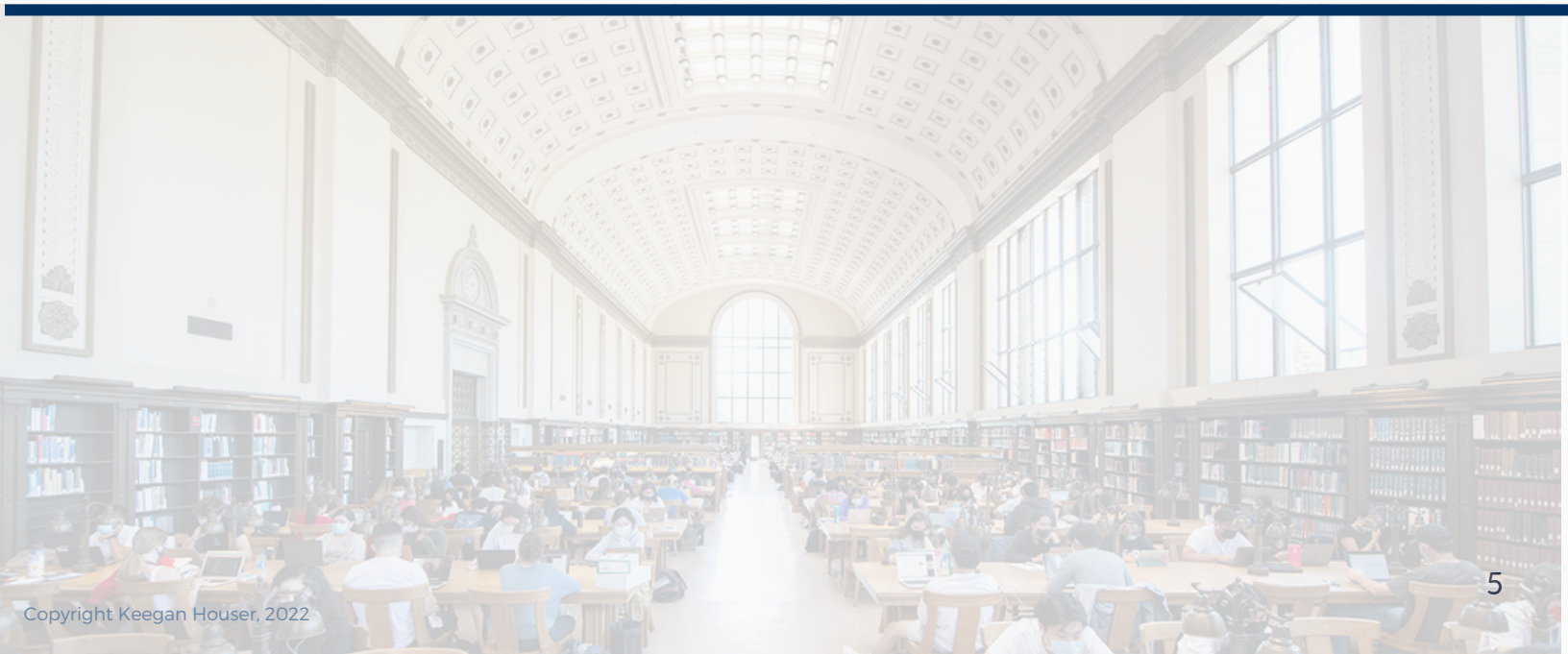
Rachel Weissman

WGs: Disability Rights, Global Systemic Racism
Projects: Diversity Database



Sophie Xue

Pay Equity edX Course, CLE On-Demand Library Lead., Pay Equity WG, LGBTQI+ WG, Global LGBTQI+ Rights Book, Multi-University Comparative Equality Law Course



Law School Practicum Students

Fall '23 - Spring '24



Clare Connaughton

Spring 2024

Mitsu Parikh

Fall 2023

Julia Herrmann

Fall 2023

Devanshi Patel-Martin

Spring 2024

Luna Jalocha

Fall 2023

Alessandra Shroff

Spring 2024

Yiying Jiang

Spring 2024

Sriraksha Venkatesh Srivatsav

Fall 2023

AJ Johnathan

Fall 2023

Ecenur Uyanik

Spring 2024

Arzoo Karki

Spring 2024

Ariane Walter

Fall 2023

Jessica Niewohner

Spring 2024

Weiluan Zhang

Spring 2024

Maria Oliveira

Fall 2023

Wenxin Zhuo

Fall 2023

Board of Advisors

Dominique Allen

SENIOR LECTURER,
BUSINESS LAW & TAXATION,
MONSAH UNIVERSITY

Shreya Atrey

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW,
KELLOGG COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Marzia Barbera

PROFESSOR OF LAW,
DEPARTMENT OF JURISPRUDENCE,
UNIVERSITY OF BRESCIA, ITALY

Ursula Basset

PROFESSOR OF LAW,
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF ARGENTINA

Mark Bell

REGIUS PROFESSOR OF LAWS,
TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

Wang Bin

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW,
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY

Alysia Blackham

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR,
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE LAW SCHOOL

Emmanuelle Bribosia

JUSTICE,
BELGIAN CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

Laura Carlson

PROFESSOR,
DEPARTMENT OF LAW,
STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY

Priyam Cherian

LEGAL OFFICER,
HIGH COURT OF DELI, INDIA

Debbie Collier

PROFESSOR & DIRECTOR OF MERCANTILE
AND LABOUR LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE

Richard Ford

GEORGE E. OSBORNE PROFESSOR OF LAW,
STANFORD LAW SCHOOL

Sheila Foster

PROFESSOR OF LAW AND CLIMATE JUSTICE,
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

Sandra Fredman

PROFESSOR OF THE LAWS OF THE COMMONWEALTH
& DIRECTOR, OXFORD HUMAN RIGHTS HUB,
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Beth Gaze

PROFESSOR OF LAW & CO-DIRECTOR OF STUDIES,
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE LAW SCHOOL

Panos Kapatos

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN EQUALITY AND
HUMAN RIGHTS LAW,
PORTSMOUTH LAW SCHOOL

Kelley Loper

PROFESSOR OF LAW, DIRECTOR OF VED
NANDA CENTER,
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

Maleiha Malik

PROFESSOR OF LAW,
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

Christoper McCrudden

WILLIAM W. COOK GLOBAL LAW PROFESSOR,
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL

Gordon Mensah

CO-FOUNDER & PRESIDENT, IN-FORMAZIONE
CONSULTANT, THE WORLD BANK

Marie Mercat-Bruns

PROFESSOR OF LAW,
SCIENCES PO LAW SCHOOL, CNAM

Katharina Miller

COMPLIANCE PROFESSOR,
IE LAW SCHOOL

Joy Milligan

PROFESSOR OF LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA LAW SCHOOL

Shivangi Misra

GLOBAL LEGAL ADVISOR,
EQUALITY NOW

Ann Noel

GENERAL COUNSEL (RET.),
CALIFORNIA FAIR EMPLOYMENT & HOUSING
COMMISSION

Colm O’Cinneide

PROFESSOR OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND
HUMAN RIGHTS LAW,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

Karen O’Connell

PROFESSOR, LAW HEALTH JUSTICE,
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

Denise Oldham

FORMER DIRECTOR AND TITLE IX OFFICER,
OFFICE FOR THE PREVENTION OF HARASSMENT
AND DISCRIMINATION UC BERKELEY

Amy Oppenheimer

FOUNDING PARTNER (RET.),
OPPENHEIMER INVESTIGATIONS GROUP LLP

David Oppenheimer

CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF LAW,
UC BERKELEY SCHOOL OF LAW

Judith Resnik

ARTHUR LIMAN PROFESSOR OF LAW,
YALE LAW SCHOOL

Julie Ringelheim

PROFESSOR OF LAW,
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF LOUVAIN, BELGIUM

Sophie Robin-Olivier

PROFESSOR OF LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF PARIS I (PANTHÉON-SORBONNE)

Isabelle Rorive

PROFESSOR OF LAW & PRESIDENT,
INSTITUTE OF EUROPEAN STUDIES AT THE
UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES

Furaha-Joy Sekai Suangweme

FOUNDER & REGIONAL COORDINATOR,
AFRICA END SEXUAL HARASSMENT INITIATIVE

Patricia Shiu

DIRECTOR (RET.),
OFFICE OF FEDERAL COMPLIANCE CONTRACT,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Reva Siegel

NICHOLAS DE. KATZENBACH PROFESSOR OF LAW,
YALE LAW SCHOOL

Susan Strum

GEORGE M. JAFFIN PROFESSOR OF LAW AND
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY,
COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL

Julie Suk

PROFESSOR OF LAW,
FORDHAM UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Beverly Tucker

BOARD CHAIR,
ACLU OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Elton Venturi

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW,
UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO PARANÁ AND
FEDERAL PROSECUTOR IN BRAZIL

Lisa Waddington

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & ENDOWED CHAIR
OF INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LAW,
MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY

Fellowship Spotlight

Every year, the Center welcomes a postgraduate fellow. These past two years, the Center has been blessed with the contributions of two postgraduate fellows: Megan Cistulli ('22-'23 fellow) and Julianna Bass ('23-'24 fellow). We would like to take the opportunity to thank them both for their contributions to the Center.

During her time with the Center, **Megan Cistulli** was involved in numerous projects. She led and assisted on research projects, such as the creation of the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs and the edX courses on the Global #MeToo Movement and the Global Movement for Pay Equity & Wage Fairness. Megan also co-founded the Center's DE&I transatlantic In-Formazione program and worked with the Africa End Sexual Harassment Initiative on webinars, conferences and book projects. Furthermore, Megan co-founded the non-profit Technology & Entrepreneurship Ladder Inc., which is aimed towards providing high school students in Kenya with a platform and the resources to use tech and entrepreneurship to bridge the opportunity gap. We want to thank Megan for her work with the Center, and wish her all the best with the pursuit of her JD at the University of Chicago Law School and her MBA at Booth School of Business.

Megan Cistulli



Julianna Bass



This past academic year, **Julianna Bass** filled the fellowship position. She helped construct and market the Continuing Legal Education On-Demand courses and contributed to the projects of the Global Systemic Racism Working Group. Julianna also helped organize several conferences, such as the January 2024 Gender Discrimination in the Workplace CLE Conference, the April 2024 Paris Conference, and the Utrecht 2023 Annual Conference. In addition, she was the student editorial lead of the BCCE E-Journal, and the Editor-in-Chief of the Center's 2022 and 2023 Annual Reports. The Center is grateful for Julianna's work, and we wish her all the best with the pursuit of her J.D. at University of Chicago Law School.

The Judy Heumann Fellowship

We are delighted that **the Ford Foundation** made a \$200,000 (USD) award to the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law to **fund a two-year postgraduate fellowship honoring Judy Heumann**. Judy Heumann was an extraordinary advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities. She was a Berkeley graduate, a member of BCCE and our Center Advisory Committee, and a Ford Foundation leader in their disability rights work. We are grateful to **Rebecca Cokely at the Ford Foundation** for her belief in our work, to our **development consultant Kath Delaney** for her vision of how to connect us with the Foundation, and to the **many staff** in the grants office at UC Berkeley who nurtured the grant process.

The Judy Heumann fellowship is directed at the work of the disability rights projects at the Center. Under the supervision of the Director of the Center, the fellow assists in conducting legal research on disability rights law, policy, and general research in support of the programs undertaken by the Disability Rights Working Group. Working closely with the leaders of the working group, Center members, and students, our Judy Heumann fellow also contributes to the development and organization of presentations and webinars on the Global Movement for Disability Rights. In addition, the fellow assists with development for the Center's disability rights and other equality work, as well as the production of policy papers.

Cortelyou Kenney



We are delighted that **Cortelyou Kenney** has been **appointed the position of the Judy Heumann fellowship**. Cortelyou is a graduate of the U.C. Berkeley School of Law, where she received her J.D. and the Phillip & Barbara Kaplan Scholarship for academic excellence and commitment to public interest. In addition to her work at the Center, she is an Affiliated Fellow at the Information Society Project at Yale Law School. She dedicates her research and writing to constitutional law and radical law and economics in support of a variety of adjacent disciplines. Previously, she was an Academic Fellow at Cornell Law School and the Associate Director of Cornell Law School's First Amendment Clinic. It is our great pleasure to welcome Cortelyou to the Center.



Our Partners

- Africa End Sexual Harassment Initiative
- The Berkeley Human Rights Center
- The Centre for Disability Law and Policy at Northern University of Ireland Galway
- Centre for Research on Law, Equality and Diversity in the Department of Law at Queen Mary University of London
- Earth Refuge
- Equal Rights Advocates
- Equality For All
- Equality Law Clinic, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PCUP)
- The Equality Trust
- The European Commission Office on Gender Equality
- The Gender Rights Program at Sciences Po Paris
- The Georgetown Workers' Rights Center
- The Institute for European Studies
- The Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law
- NOVA Center for the Study of Gender, Family, and the Law
- Oxford Human Rights Hub
- Oxford Pro Bono Publico
- Right to Equality
- The United Nations Secretariat Office on Disability Rights
- Université Libre de Bruxelles Equality Law Clinic
- WORLD Policy Analysis Center

By the Numbers

We are eager to share with you a numbers summary, detailing just a few of the milestones and achievements that the Center has reached this year.



1,000+
members

10

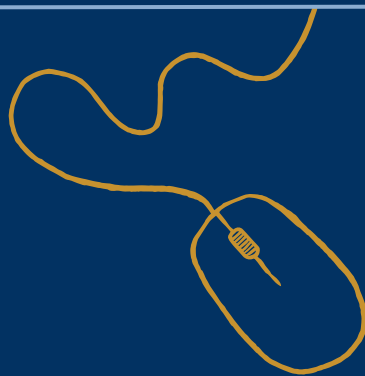
working
groups

6/7
continents



21

partners



20
on-demand
CLE programs



245

paper proposals for our
annual conference



22

webinars
and events

Our Working Groups

The Center has ten (10) Working Groups, with leadership from across the globe and support from our UC Berkeley undergraduates and other volunteers. We are happy to share the recent developments of our current working groups.

Climate
Equality

Digital
Equality

Disability
Rights

Equity &
Criminal Justice

Gender-based
Harassment and
Violence

Global
Systemic
Racism

In-Formazione

Intersectional Class
Discrimination

LGBTQI+

Pay Equity &
Living Wage

*If you are viewing this report in PDF format, **clicking on each box** will take you directly to the working group's description*



Cristy Clark
Australia
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR,
UNIVERSITY OF
CANBERRA LAW SCHOOL



Beth Goldblatt
Australia
PROFESSOR OF LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY
VISITING PROFESSOR,
UNIVERSITY OF
WITWATERSRAND

Climate Equality Working Group

The Climate Equality Working Group is concerned with the **relationship between environmental damage and human rights**. In particular, it explores the impact climate change has on inequality and the ways in which equality and discrimination law can contribute to climate justice.

The Climate Equality Working Group is directed by Professor Beth Goldblatt, Faculty of Law at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), Australia, and Honorary Professor in the School of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa; and Associate Professor Cristy Clark, University of Canberra Law School, Australia.

In 2024, the group convened a **major online symposium on climate equality litigation**. It was held over three sessions from 23-25 September across multiple time zones, and involved approximately 50 speakers. The symposium was hosted jointly with the Climate Litigation Network. Litigation on climate change is occurring **around the world** at national, regional and international levels. Many of these cases raise equality issues pointing to the **unequal impacts of climate change on a range of vulnerable groups**, but equality law arguments are not always front and center in these cases. This symposium brings together practitioners and scholars to exchange ideas, knowledge and strategic insights on the use of equality law in climate litigation.



Laura Carlson
Sweden
PROFESSOR,
STOCKHOLM
UNIVERSITY



**Katarina Fast
Lappalainen**
Sweden
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR,
SWEDISH LAW AND
INFORMATICS, RESEARCH
INSTITUTE, STOCKHOLM
UNIVERSITY



Katharina Miller
Spain
COMPLIANCE
PROFESSOR,
IE LAW SCHOOL

Digital Equality Working Group

In 2024, the Digital Equality Working Group continued its commitment to addressing the **intersections of technology, law, and equality** through several impactful events.

In May, the group co-hosted a webinar with the Intersectional Class Discrimination Working Group titled "**The Digital Divide and Intersectional Class Discrimination.**" Held on May 21, 2024, this webinar featured notable speakers including Bastian Steuwer from Ashoka University, Geraldine Van Bueren from Queen Mary University of London, Laura Carlson, and Katarina Fast, both from Stockholm University. The session explored the ways in which **digital inequities intersect with class-based discrimination**, shedding light on the compounded **challenges faced by marginalized groups** in an increasingly digital world.

Earlier in the year, on January 18, 2024, the group hosted a webinar titled "**Legal Design & Plain Legal Language – Rethinking Law for Achieving Equality.**" This event focused on the potential of **Legal Design and Plain Legal Language** to make law clearer, more accessible, and effective in promoting equality for consumers and citizens. The speaker, Anthony Novaes, a Brazilian attorney and M.A. candidate in Linguistics at Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie, offered insights from his extensive academic research and teaching experience in Latin America.

Both events reflected the group's broader mission to examine the **role of law in addressing the inequalities emerging from digital transformation.** By facilitating discussions on complex topics like the digital divide, class discrimination, and legal accessibility, the group continues to push the boundaries of how law can be used as a tool for advancing digital equality.



Lisa Waddington
Netherlands
REGIUS PROFESSOR OF
LAWS,
MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY
PRINCIPAL
INVESTIGATOR
LAW-BALANCE PROJECT



Laverne Jacobs
Canada
LAW PROFESSOR,
UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR
MEMBER,
UN COMMITTEE ON THE
RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES



Marie Spinoy
Belgium
MEMBER OF LITIGATION
CHAMBER
THE FLEMISH HUMAN
RIGHTS INSTITUTE
RESEARCHER
LEUVEN CENTRE FOR
PUBLIC LAW AT GHENT
UNIVERSITY

Disability Rights Working Group

In February 2024, the Disability Rights Working Group co-hosted with the Law, Disability & Social Change Project, a webinar titled, ‘**At risk and overlooked: Children with disabilities in armed conflict.**’ The featured speaker was Emina Ćerimović, Associate Director, Disability Rights Division, Human Rights Watch. Ms Ćerimović gave an overview of **Human Rights Watch’s** work on **children with disabilities** who have been **impacted by armed conflict** in the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Syria, and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Students from the Berkeley Comparative Equality Practicum course provided research assistance as interns for Laverne Jacobs, Expert Member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for the UN CRPD 30th session in March 2024. The following Berkeley Law students took part: Devanshi Patel-Martin, Yiying Jiang and Weiluan Zhang.

The Disability Rights Working Group was also extremely delighted to welcome Cort Kenney, BCCE’s inaugural **Judy Heumann Postgraduate Fellow** in Comparative Disability Rights Law.

Between January – June, 2024, the Disability Rights Working Group was co-directed by Mark Bell, Regius Professor of Law and Fellow at Trinity College Dublin; and Laverne Jacobs, a Law Professor at the University of Windsor, Canada, and member of the United Nations’ Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Since July, 2024 the group has been co-directed by Laverne Jacobs, Lisa Waddington and Marie Spinoy. Lisa Waddington is the European Disability Forum Professor of European Disability Law at Maastricht University in the Netherlands. Marie Spinoy is a PhD Researcher and Lecturer in Constitutional Law and Anti-Discrimination Law at the KU Leuven Faculty of Law. The working group is assisted by student researcher, Brittany Postle.



Denise Abade

Brazil

FEDERAL PROSECUTOR,
MINISTÉRIO PÚBLICO
FEDERAL
PROFESSOR, UNIVERSIDADE
PRESBITERIANA MACKENZIE



Nina Peršak

Slovenia

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR AND
SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW,
INSTITUTE FOR CRIMINAL-LAW
ETHICS AND CRIMINOLOGY
IN LJUBLJANA

Equity & Criminal Justice Working Group

The Equity & Criminal Justice Working Group's main aim is to examine and promote discussion on pertinent questions relating to **(in)equality, (in)equity and discrimination** as found or generated in the setting of **criminal justice**. Criminal justice is one of the areas that can interfere with the individual's freedoms and human rights, including equality, in the most drastic ways and hence merits careful scrutiny and monitoring. Furthermore, criminalization (in the broader sense) and criminal justice mechanisms are often adopted and applied as strategies to tackle various socially undesirable phenomena outside of criminal justice institutions as well, thereby reproducing certain **inequalities ingrained** in many current criminal justice systems. Through **cross-border collaboration** to address these issues internationally and comparatively, the Working Group is thus exploring issues intersecting equ(al)ity and criminal justice with a particular interest in **comparative perspectives** in order to draw lessons from national contexts and contribute to equity and equality-ensuring or -enhancing solutions more globally.

In 2024, the Working Group continued with webinars as a part of its seminar series titled '**Dialogues on Equality and Crime in the Justice System**'. On 13 March 2024, the group held an online seminar titled '**Assessing Greece's Evolving Legal Framework for Rape and its Impact on Victims in the Criminal Justice System**,' presented by Dr. Chara Chioni-Chotouman, Postdoctoral Researcher at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece) with extensive experience in working with GBV victims. It addressed the topical issue of amending criminal legislation with consent-based definitions of rape, specifically in Greece (but reflecting similar, post-#MeToo legal developments in many other countries) and scrutinized special procedural measures for testimony in sexual assault cases, with a focus on potential implications for gender equality and addressing vulnerability. On October 16, 2024, the seminar series continued with the webinar on '**Access to Criminal Justice and Inequality in Brazil: Challenges and Perspectives in the Digital Era**,' in which we hosted Prof. Guilherme Madeira Dezem, Professor at University of São Paulo and Mackenzie University (Brazil) and Trial Judge in the State of São Paulo, as the speaker.

This working group is co-directed by Denise Abade, federal prosecutor and a professor at Mackenzie University; and Nina Peršak, Full Professor of Law, University of Maribor (habilitation), and Scientific Director and Senior Research Fellow of the Institute for Criminal-Law Ethics and Criminology in Ljubljana. In the first half of the year, the group was assisted by the postgraduate research fellow Juliana Bass.



Costanza Hermanin
Italy

RESEARCH FELLOW
ROBERT SCHUMANN
CENTER FOR ADVANCED
STUDIES



Furaha-Joy Sekai
Saungweme
Tanzania

FOUNDER & REGIONAL
COORDINATOR
AFRICA END SEXUAL HARASSMENT
INITIATIVE (AESHI)

Gender-based Harassment and Violence Working Group

The Berkeley Center's Gender-based Harassment and Violence (formerly Sexual Harassment and Violence) Working Group was formed in 2017 and has since held annual Continuing Legal Education (CLE) conferences on sexual harassment law, written a book on The Global #MeToo Movement, launched programs to combat sexual harassment in education, and has developed toolkits on workplace harassment investigations.

In 2020, the Berkeley Center published [The Global #MeToo Movement](#), with chapters from 48 authors in 28 countries, discussing global resistance to Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence. The book consists of short essays published by a mix of leading feminist scholars, activists, and emerging voices. The Global #MeToo Movement book is available for only \$16 as a softcover or an eBook on [Amazon](#), through the [publishing house](#), on our [website](#), and for free as an [eBook](#).

We are also pleased to announce this year's publication of the book [Sexual Harassment and the Law in Africa: Country and Regional Perspectives](#). The book was edited by a team of legal and policy experts, including Furaha-Joy Sekai Saungweme, and it highlights the importance of laws around sexual harassment in Africa, the intersectional challenges it poses to women in the workplace and the role of the feminist movement in Africa to hold perpetrators accountable and give a voice to survivors of sexual harassment. It also forms part of a broader African-driven research initiative on sexual harassment and the law driven by the African End Sexual Harassment Initiative (AESHI).

This year, the Gender-based Harassment and Violence working group hosted the Continuing Legal Education conference, focusing on **"New Developments in Gender Discrimination, Harassment, and Violence in Employment and Education."** The conference took place from January 4-5, 2024, at the Bancroft Hotel in Berkeley, California. During these days, six different panels were held on topics including non-litigation remedies, defamation and backlash, Title IX and education, and the professional responsibility of independent investigators. In addition, participants were able to attend other events such as an organised conversation about affirmative consent and a lunch and presentation on the war on DEI.

In January 2025, the Center will host a Continuing Legal Education Conference that will focus on **"Gender Discrimination and Harassment Law."** This hybrid conference will be held from January 23-24, 2025, at both the International House in Berkeley, California, and online via Zoom. The opening remarks will be given by Dean of the UC Berkeley School of Law, Erwin Chemerinsky. The conference will consist of discussions on a variety of topics, including developments in Title IX, intersectionality and sexual harassment, restorative justice, and developments in Californian discrimination law. Further information on the conference program can be found on our [website](#). Registration is available [here](#).

This working group has two directors. Costanza Hermanin is a Research Fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (Global Governance Programme) and a Visiting Professor at the College of Europe-Bruges and SciencesPo Paris. Furaha-Joy Sekai Saungweme is a lawyer, and the founder and regional coordinator of AESHI.



Kristen Barnes
United States

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR
FACULTY RESEARCH &
PROFESSOR OF LAW,
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW



David Oppenheimer
United States

CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF LAW
& FACULTY DIRECTOR OF THE
CENTER,
UC BERKELEY SCHOOL OF LAW

Global Systemic Racism Working Group

The Global Systemic Racism Working Group is co-led by Dr. Kristen Barnes, Associate Dean of Syracuse University College of Law, and Professor David Oppenheimer of UC Berkeley. This team has been focused on addressing systemic racism from a global perspective, bringing together a diverse range of voices and expertise. Their current major project is an **upcoming book, featuring a collection of essays authored by 23 scholars from 5 continents with the aim of exploring different aspects of systemic racism across legal, social, and political contexts.** The project has received support from the Jean Monnet Fund of the European Union, underscoring its importance in fostering international dialogue on these critical issues. The book is currently under submission to an academic press.

Looking ahead, the group's next goal is the **development of a Berkeley EdX course** that will serve as an educational companion to the book. This online course aims to make the research and discussions from the book more accessible to a broader audience, offering an interactive platform to delve deeper into the themes of global systemic racism and engage with cutting-edge scholarship. Through these initiatives, the Global Systemic Racism Working Group continues to advance the conversation on race and inequality on a global scale.



Gordon Mensah

Italy

CO-FOUNDER & PRESIDENT,
IN-FORMAZIONE
CONSULTANT,
THE WORLD BANK

In-Formazione Working Group

The In-Formazione working group represents a unique cross-cultural initiative, bringing together students and young professionals from both Italy and Berkeley under the guidance of the Center. This project is designed to foster open dialogue on equality and discrimination, **blending global perspectives to broaden understanding and bridge connections across borders**. At its core, In-Formazione aims to expand opportunities for second generation Italians as they enter the workforce, many of whom face systemic challenges due to their backgrounds.

Meeting through Zoom, **participants from Italy and Berkeley** engage in deep discussions on critical social, economic, and legal issues that are pertinent to both countries, but carry distinct challenges and approaches within each context. Guided by experienced moderators known for their work in diversity and inclusion, each discussion is both a learning experience and a space for critical thinking and reflection. Topics range from nuanced discussions of racism to perspectives on diversity within corporate and academic settings. Participants also explore affirmative action policies and diversity quotas, examining their application and impact in each country. The conversations are enriched by the global perspectives that participants bring, allowing them to consider how concepts like positive discrimination are applied differently across nations and within each community.

Overall, the In-Formazione project emphasizes the **importance of collaboration and solidarity**, helping students and professionals alike to understand diversity's broader implications within the workforce and society. The program aims to build a community that is not only aware of global challenges in equality and discrimination, but is also equipped with the network and tools to address them.

For more details on the project, please visit our [website](#).



Geraldine Van Bueren
England

*HON SENIOR FELLOW BRITISH INSTITUTE OF
INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW,
QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
VISITING FELLOW
KELLOGG COLLEGE, OXFORD AND DOUGHTY
STREET CHAMBERS*

Intersectional Class Discrimination Working Group

The Intersectional Working Group, led by Professor Emerita Geraldine Van Bueren, has actively been involved in critical discussions since its launch in January 2024. The group organized three events aimed at exploring, raising awareness, and advocating for various aspects of intersectional discrimination.

The first event was an **International Symposium on Intersectional Class Discrimination and Cultural Rights**, moderated by Professor Van Bueren and featured panelists such as Costanza Nardocci, Ph.D., who provided a gendered analysis of the intersections between race, culture, and social class, and Rosana Garciandia, who examined the obligations of intersectionality in international human rights law.

The second event was a **joint initiative between the Intersectional Class Discrimination Working Group and the Digital Equality Working Group**. This event was moderated by Bastian Steuwer and included insights from Geraldine Van Bueren, Laura Carlson, and Katarina Fast. This collaborative event explored the intersection of class discrimination and digital equality.

The third event, **Fostering First-Generation Student Success in Law School**, was once again moderated by Professor Van Bueren. Lisa Pruitt and Nirav Bhardwaj were the speakers. This event focused on the unique challenges faced by first-generation law students and stressed fostering their success.



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UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS



Michele di Bari
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LGBTQI+ Working Group

The LGBTQI+ Working Group was initially formed in August 2020 as a LGBTQI+ Network to bring together the diverse range of scholars, lawyers, activists, practitioners within BCCE, who work on numerous different dimensions of LGBTQI+ rights and identities across a broad range of jurisdictions and regions. As of August 2021, the LGBTQI+ Network has been an official Working Group of BCCE. Its aim is to **foster the exchange of knowledge** and best practices, create opportunities to share and discuss new scholarship and research, facilitate collaboration and partnerships among Working Group members, and **promote LGBTQI+ perspectives** within the broader work of BCCE.

The LGBTQI+ Working Group is currently working on transforming our past research and compiled data and the written work of global LGBTQI+ scholars and activists into a **BCCE publication on key international LGBTQI+ court cases** since the year 2000. The Working Group also aims to organize and **host a series of webinars every semester**. Past webinars were on the topics of trans men giving birth and reflections on fatherhood, transgender and gender-diverse participation in sport and the legal LGBTQI+ related developments in India.

In 2024, the LGBTQI+ Working Group organized **four webinars** on the topics of the cross border recognition of LGBTQI+ parenting rights in the EU, the impact of AI on LGBTQI+ rights, anti-LGBTQ hate crimes in Russia, and on the persecution of LGBTQI+ people in authoritarian contexts. The LGBTQI+ Working Group is co-ordinated by Masuma Shahid, Alina Tryfonidou, Michele di Bari, Türkan Ertuna Lagrand and Sergey Katsuba. The student leads assisting with research are Amisha Sethi, Alaina Delsignore and Sophie Xue.



Stephanie Bornstein
United States

*PROFESSOR OF LAW &
WILLIAM M. RAINS FELLOW,
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ANGELES*



Sara Benedí Lahuerta
Ireland

*ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN LAW
& ACADEMIC DIRECTOR OF
FRENCH LAW,
SUTHERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN*

Pay Equity & Living Wage Working Group

The Pay Equity and Living Wage Working Group explores **gender-based (including LGBTQI) unequal and unfair pay and its intersection with race, ethnicity, age, disability, income status, and poverty**. The Working Group examines pay disparities affecting workers in both formal work relationships and informal economies. It studies the progress made and challenges faced by countries, nations, and regions around the world in addressing unequal pay. Its goal is to identify, document, and share evidence-based, proactive steps to help reduce pay inequity and achieve living wages around the world.

Since its founding in 2019, the Working Group has held two webinars and a virtual international conference. In Fall 2020, the Group held its **1st International Equal Pay Day Flash Conference**, with a panel of speakers from the United States, Sweden, Germany, and UN Women in conversation on topics including women's economic empowerment, the Fair Pay Innovation lab, and other topics on fair pay. In June 2021, the Group co-hosted its **inaugural Pay Equity and Living Wage Virtual Conference** in cooperation with the Georgetown Workers' Rights Institute. The conference brought together scholars, lawyers, government officials, workers, activists and socially responsible business experts to identify potential, evidence-based, proactive steps to address pay inequity and achieve living wages around the world.

This past year, in February 2024, the Working Group hosted a **Webinar on The EU Pay Transparency Directive**. The webinar provided an overview of the major goals and provisions the European Union's groundbreaking Pay Transparency Directive, adopted in June 2023. Topics included the role of the Directive in the EU legal order; individual rights, collective duties, and enforcement procedures under the Directive; and the advantages and shortcomings of the Directive.

The Working Group is currently at work helping the BCCE's staff and students plan and develop a **comprehensive Pay Equity MOOC EdX course**. The course aims to incorporate content from the Group's past conferences and events, updated with timely research, to provide an overview of the history and causes, context and challenges, and evolving solutions to redress pay inequality around the world. The Group will continue work on the course this upcoming year, as well as host another planned event.

The Working Group is co-directed by Professors Stephanie Bornstein, Professor of Law & William M. Rains Fellow at Loyola Law School Los Angeles, and Sara Benedí Lahuerta, Assistant Professor in Law & Academic Director of French Law/Law & Language Programmes at Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin.

Berkeley edX and Massive Open Online Courses



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COVID-19 and Global Inequalities

In the fall of 2020, more than twenty Center members from six continents joined together to teach a multi-university online course on COVID-19 and Global Inequalities, with students from 13 universities in South America, North America, Europe, Asia, and Africa. The course focused on how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected equality rights law, with special attention to the intersection of equality rights with gender, race, disability, age, and poverty. Berkeley students Shealyn Massey and Claire Black used the recordings of the class meetings to produce this Berkeley edX course, allowing anyone with internet access to enroll in the MOOC version of the course.

The Global #MeToo Movement

The Center has published a new Berkeley edX course on sexual harassment and the global #MeToo movement, which went live at the beginning of 2023. The course utilizes the Center's publication, *The Global #MeToo Movement*, as its textbook and primary source material. Students can examine resistance to sexual harassment as a global issue through a series of lectures and discussions with academics, advocates, and activists from six continents.

E-Course Intensive Program in Anti-Discrimination Law *Hosted by Nova Law School in Lisbon, Portugal*

The Intensive Program in Anti-discrimination Law is an advanced Jurisnova course hosted by Nova Law School and co-sponsored by the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law. The course provides students and other interested participants with key concepts and theories in anti-discrimination law. It furthermore trains participants on the most relevant litigation strategies in European courts, US courts, courts in South America and before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).

EdX Courses Coming Soon

- The Global Movement for Disability Rights
- Global Systemic Racism
- Global Pay Equity & Wage Fairness

UC Berkeley Courses



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Comparative Equality Law Practicum

Berkeley Law students enrolled in the Comparative Equality Law Practicum conduct legal research and advocacy work on equality law cases and/or policy papers under the supervision of Professor David Oppenheimer. Projects include amicus briefs, policy papers, and intervention in litigation in the US and elsewhere around the world.

Student projects in 2024 included an amicus brief for the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, a policy report on affirmative consent, and the trial of a disability rights case.

Multi-university Comparative Equality Law Course

Under the leadership of Panos Kapatos (Portsmouth), Laura Carlson (Stockholm), and David Oppenheimer (Berkeley) the Center coordinates and teaches a fall semester multi-university course on Comparative Equality Law with faculty and students from 12 universities in Asia, Australia, Africa, Europe, North America, and South America. The class meets weekly by Zoom with lectures and break-out room discussions on issues including theories and sources of equality law, employment discrimination law, secularism, human rights and the legal rights of religious minorities, sexual harassment/violence, and affirmative action. The course comparatively examines US, European, and other national, regional, and international legal systems (including those of India, Brazil, Colombia, Canada, and South Africa) and provides a global overview of legal responses to inequalities.

Our Year in Review ²⁰₂₄

NOV 2023

In-Formazione & BCCE: Generation Professionale

Speaker: Dr. Edoardo Borgomeo

NOV 2023

Digital Equality Webinar: AI, Algorithmic Discrimination & Gender Equality

Speaker: Fabian Lütz

JAN 4-5
2024

CLE Conference: New Developments in Gender Discrimination, Harassment, & Violence in Employment and Education

JAN 18
2024

Digital Equality Webinar: Legal Design & Plain Legal Language - Rethinking Law for Achieving Equality

Speaker: Anthony Novaes

JAN 26
2024

International Symposium on Intersectional Class Discrimination and Cultural Rights

Moderator: Professor Emerita Geraldine Van Bueren KC

Panelists: Costanza Nardocci and Rosana Garcíandia

FEB 16
2024

Disability Rights Webinar: At Risk and Overlooked: Children with Disabilities in Armed Conflict

Speaker: Emina Ćerimović

FEB 29
2024

Pay Equity Webinar: The EU Pay Transparency Directive

Speaker: Professor Sara Benedí Lahuerta

MAR 13
2024

Equity & Criminal Justice WG Seminar Series: Assessing Greece's Evolving Legal Framework for Rape and its Impact on Victims in the Criminal Justice System

Speaker: Chara Chioni-Chotouman

APR 9
2024

LGBTQI+ Webinar: The EU and the Cross Border Recognition of LGBTQI+ Parenting Rights

Speaker: Alina Tryfondiou

**APR 26-27
2024**

Paris Conference: An EU Comparative Workshop on Global and European Perspectives on Systemic Racism

Conservatoire national des arts et métiers

MAY 8 2024

EWLA & BCCE: World Bank Report on Women, Business, and the Law

**MAY 16
2024**

LGBTQI+ Webinar: The Impact of AI on LGBTQI+ Rights

Speaker: Masuma Shahid

**MAY 21
2024**

The Digital Divide and Intersectional Class Discrimination Webinar

Speakers: Laura Carlson, Bastian Steuwer, Geraldine Van Bueren, and Katarina Fast

**MAY 28
2024**

Interview with the First Lady of Iceland: Eliza Reid

JUN 10 2024

Intersectional Class Discrimination Webinar: Fostering First Generation Student Success in Law School

Speakers: Lisa Pruitt and Nirav Bhardmaj

JUL 2 2024

LGBTQI+ Webinar: Decade of Violence: Anti-LGBTQ Hate Crimes in Russia in the Era of "Gay Propaganda Law"

Speaker: Sergey Katsuba

**SEPT 23-25
2024**

Climate Equality Symposium: Strategic Litigation on Climate Equality

**SEPT 25
2024**

LGBTQI+ Webinar: Persecution of LGBTQI+ People in Authoritarian Contexts

Speakers: Mariya Levitanus, Unoma Azuah, and Yuliang Lu

OCT 6 2024

Webinar with UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Equality Rights Trust

OCT 16 2024

Equity & Criminal Justice Seminar Series: Access to Criminal Justice and Inequality in Brazil: Challenges and Perspectives in the Digital Era

Speaker: Guilherme Madeira Dezem

OCT 28 2024

Disability Rights & AESHI Webinar: Empowering Women with Disabilities in Africa Through Ending Sexual Harassment

*Moderator: Marie Spinoy
Panelists: Dr. Victoria Lihiru and Nkechinyere Melva Uguru*

Our Annual Conference Programs

2024



**National Law School of India
University & Oxford Human Rights Hub
Bengaluru, India**

The **11th annual conference** of the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law (BCCE) was jointly hosted by the National Law School of India University and the Oxford Human Rights Hub. The Conference was held at the National Law School of India University Bengaluru (India) from **July 26-28, 2024**.

The theme of the Conference was "**Is There Hope for Equality Law?**" and consisted of **32 panels**, close to 100 presentations, and 5 pre-curated panels. The sessions focused on direct and indirect discrimination, climate justice, refugee rights, criminal and civil liberties, personal and family laws, gender justice, AI and digital rights, economic equality, and linguistic equality among others.

We are honoured that **the Hon'ble Dr. Justice D Y Chandrachud**, the Chief Justice of India and Chancellor of NLSIU, agreed to deliver the keynote address at the Conference. The full video of the address is available [here](#).

Our gratitude goes to the organizers and hosts of this Conference:

Mr. Pranav Verma, Dr. Kamala Sankaran, and Vice-Chancellor Professor Sudhir Krishnaswamy of the National Law School of India University, Dr. Meghan Campbell, Dr. Shreya Atray, Professor Sandra Fredman of the Oxford Human Rights Hub, and Professor David Oppenheimer of the UC Berkeley School of Law.

2025

University of Ljubljana



**National University
Ljubljana, Slovenia**

The BCCE **12th annual conference** will be co-sponsored by the University of Ljubljana and the Slovenian Equality Body. The Conference will be held at the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia) from **July 2-4, 2025**.

Announcement for a call for papers coming soon.

Our Publications



BCCE Electronic Journal

The Center's electronic journal informs our members about recently published papers in our field by distributing abstracts and links to the papers. Our editors-in-chief are **Eliana Zatchler** and **Furaha-Joy Sekai Saungueme**. They are assisted by a rotating group of associate editors and **Shannon Farrell** as student editorial lead.



Global Systemic Racism Book

Forthcoming, 2025

The Center has brought together experts from around the globe for a series of discussions and paper presentations on the topic of global systemic racism. We are currently editing those essays to develop a book on this topic, which is being edited by professor **Kristen Barnes**, the Associate Dean of Syracuse University College of Law and Professor **David Oppenheimer** of Berkeley Law.



Digital Equality Book

Where does discrimination law fit into the ever-changing landscape of technology and artificial intelligence? This is the central question of the forthcoming book that co-director of the Center's Digital Equality Working Group and Stockholm University professor **Katarina Fast**, Center undergraduate research apprentice **Lydia Sidhom**, and former Center undergraduate research apprentice **Varsha Nekkanti** are writing. We are excited to share our work, which aims to bring to light issues of bias, discrimination, and ethics within the context of artificial intelligence across sectors and borders.

The Global #MeToo Movement

August, 2020

On every continent, women are using the new tools of social media to confront one of the oldest barriers to equality: the threat of violence, including sexual harassment, as a tool of male supremacy. In *The Global #MeToo Movement*, produced by the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law, and edited by Ann Noel and David Oppenheimer, 48 authors from 28 countries, spanning every continent but Antarctica, tell the story of how social media has driven a social movement against sexual harassment, and how the law has responded, often by helping men to push back.

The book was published in 2020, and is now accompanied by a **Berkeley edX course**. The book consists of short essays published by a mix of leading feminist scholars, activists, and emerging voices. *The Global #MeToo Movement* book is available for only \$16 as a softcover or an eBook on **Amazon**, through the **publishing house**, on our **website**, and for free as an **eBook**.

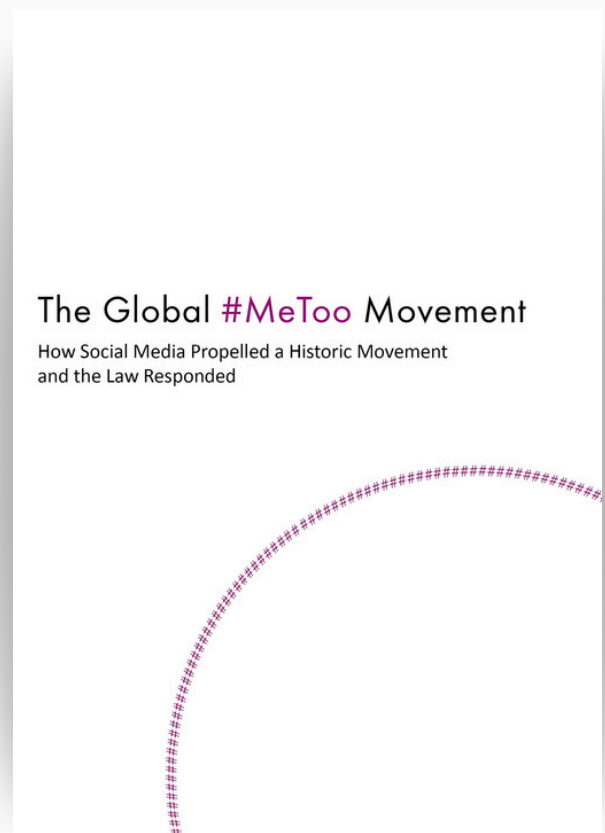
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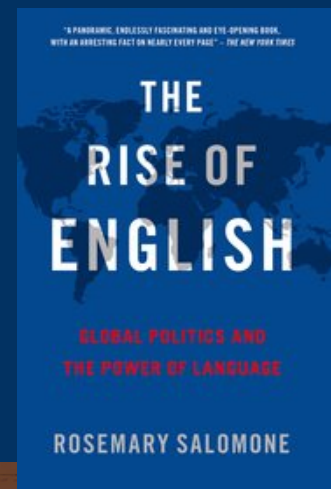
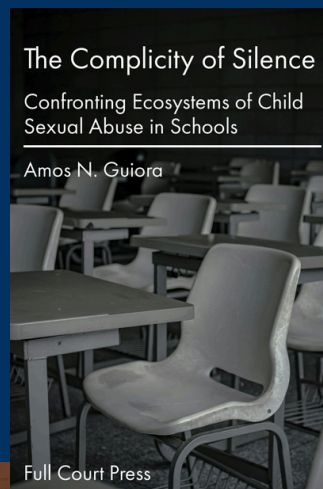
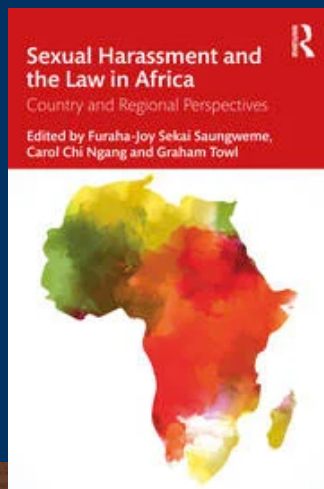
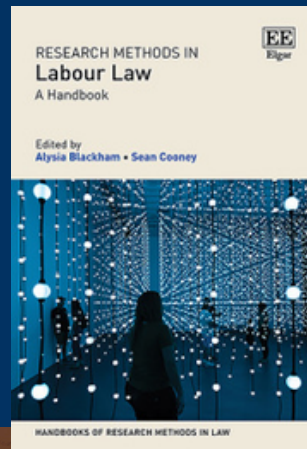
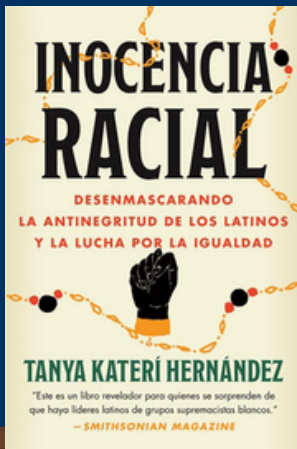
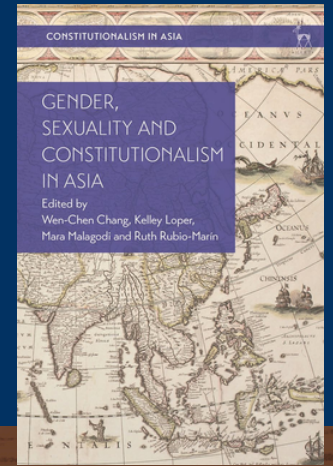
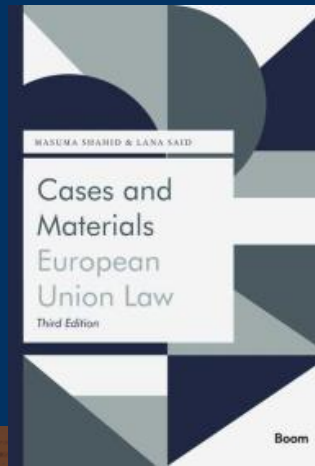
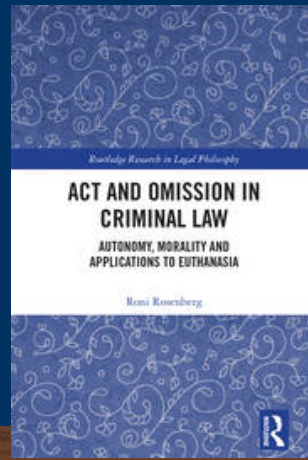
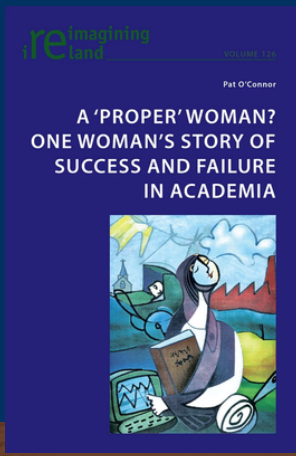
Our Members' Recent Books

Our Recent Books Collection is comprised of our members' books that have been published over the past year concerning some aspect of comparative or global equality law. The Center strives to collect and share recent materials regarding pay equity, sexual harassment, and other global developments on the front of equality rights. We are eager to share this collection of emerging scholarly work with you.

Title

Author(s)

A 'Proper' Woman? One Woman's Story of Success and Failure in Academia	Pat O'Connor
Act and Omission in Criminal Law: Autonomy, Morality, and Applications to Euthanasia	Dr. Roni Rosenberg
Between Sameness and Difference: Intersectionality in the InterAmerican Court of Human Rights	Mónica Arango Olaya
Cases and Materials; European Union Law	Masuma Shahid and Lana Said
Court Practices Regarding Disability Discrimination, Including Reasonable Accommodation, at EU and Member State Level and in Light of the UN CRPD	Lisa Waddington and Andrea Broderick
Freedom for All: Academic Freedom in a Pluralistic Society in Academic Freedom in a Plural World: Global Critical Perspectives	Tamara Thermitus
Gender, Sexuality, and Constitutionalism in Asia	Wen-Chen Chang, Kelley Loper, Mara Malagodi, Ruth Rubio Marín
Inocencia Racial: Desenmascarando la Antinegritud de los Latinos y la Lucha por la Igualdad	Tanya Kateri Hernandez
Interseccionalidad y Anti-estereotipación como Recursos de un Derecho Antidiscriminatorio Crítico. Especial Referencia al Ámbito de la CAPV	Alazne Irigoien Domínguez
Research Methods in Labour Law: A Handbook	Alysia Blackham and Sean Cooney
Researching the Boundaries of Sexual Integrity, Gender Violence, and Image-Based Abuse	Gert Vermuelen, Nina Peršak, and Stéphanie De Coensel
Sexual Harassment and the Law in Africa Country and Regional Perspectives	Furaha-Joy Sekai Saungweme, Carol Chi Ngang, Graham Towl et. al.
The Blind Man Game: A Memoir of Art, Activism, and Adaptation	Paul Boskind
The Complicity of Silence: Confronting Ecosystems of Child Sexual Abuse in Schools	Amos N. Guiora
The Rise of English: Global Politics and the Power of Language	Rosemary Salomone



*If you are viewing this report in PDF format, **clicking on each book** will provide you with more information on the publication*

Many Thanks to Our Donors

We are extremely grateful for the generous financial support of our donors who share our vision and care deeply about issues of inequality. We recognize those who made gifts between January 1, 2023 and October 31, 2024.

As we enter the season of charitable giving, **please consider making a tax deductible donation to the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law.** Thank you for your consideration.

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In Memoriam

We at BCCE honor the memories of Lindsay E. Harris, Christopher Edley Jr., and Zhang Wanhong, three valued contributors to the Center who sadly passed this year.

Lindsay E. Harris



Lindsay E. Harris was not just a colleague of the Center, but a friend to all who knew her. She approached each of her diverse roles at BCCE with ambition, drive, and care toward others. After attending several of our gender violence working group's early conferences, Harris became a guest speaker, helped organize the conferences, and eventually became one of the group's directors. As co-director, Harris led our undergraduate student researchers in several projects that focused on the rights of survivors, intersectionality, and human rights law. Her impact did not end there. She was also heavily involved in our multi-university course on comparative equality law. First invited as a speaker for the class, she soon became a discussion leader, and was later hired by the undergraduate Legal Studies department at Berkeley as a faculty member. The one thing that all of her projects and accomplishments have in common is that she did everything wholeheartedly. She always valued mentorship and was committed to every student's success—a legacy that will last for decades to come. Click [here](#) to see the inspiring remarks of Harris' students since her passing and [here](#) for a dedication video.

A Thank You

In honor of Lindsay E. Harris, BCCE received **two pledges totaling \$35,000** as a challenge match for gifts made to the Center from the summer to November 1, 2024. These gifts have allowed the Center to make further strides on our Berkeley EdX courses on comparative equality law, Global Pay Equity and Wage Fairness, Global Systemic Racism, and The Global Movement for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

These courses will help us reach students around the world who want to expand their knowledge on subjects that Harris was passionate about: equality for women, people of color, persons with disabilities, and others deprived of equal rights. BCCE will also have a **tribute to Harris and her incredible impact** on January 23 at our program on New Developments in Gender Discrimination and Harassment Law in California, the United States, and Beyond. Lindsay E. Harris is deeply missed, and we hope that her memory inspires others to approach every project with compassion and empathy, just as she did.

Christopher Edley Jr.



BCCE owes much of its success to former Berkeley Law Dean Christopher Edley Jr., who passed this year. Edley was a renowned legal scholar in education policy, administrative law, and civil rights, whose leadership in public policy profoundly impacted a plethora of political campaigns and legislative efforts. While Dean of Berkeley Law, Edley encouraged BCCE Director David B. Oppenheimer to start the Center because he believed in Oppenheimer's vision of using law as a tool for social justice. It was Edley's initial funding contribution that jumpstarted the Center, bringing this vision to fruition. We aspire to embody his vision of equity, inclusivity, and social activism in every BCCE project. His legacy will not be forgotten.

Zhang Wanhong

Zhang Wanhong's contributions to BCCE also had a far-reaching impact. He was one of our keynote speakers at the 2022 Annual Meeting at the University of Hong Kong, where he discussed the intersection of human rights and public interest law. His speech challenged each listener to rethink the aforementioned issues through new perspectives and encouraged everyone to make a difference in their own way. Wanhong's accomplishments outside of BCCE are impressive and widespread. He was a co-founder and director of the Institute for Human Rights Studies at Wuhan University. In 2017, he helped draft China's combined 2nd and 3rd periodic reports of state members of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. To honor these achievements, Wanhong was nominated as a candidate for membership in the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for 2025-2028. Wanhong championed many honors and awards, but those who knew him remember him most for his character. He was an empathetic, pioneering, socially-engaged scholar who dedicated his life to the teaching of law and human rights. He was a role model to his students, motivating people to think independently, be open-minded, and strive for equality around the world. Zhang Wanhong was an inspiring person in every aspect of his life, and he will be deeply missed.



